

STARS AND STRIPES®

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spot to change
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FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2005

50¢

AF faces cheating scandal over test for enlisted airmen

Rhein-Main master sergeant accused of distributing exam material Page 5

Selig, players step up to plate

Baseball commissioner defends
league's steroid policy to lawmakers

Back page

Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig listens to the testimony of Sen. Jim Bunning, R-Ky., during a hearing investigating steroid use in baseball Thursday on Capitol Hill in Washington. Bunning is a former pitcher who was elected to the U.S. Baseball Hall of Fame in 1996.



AP

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Illegal immigrants smuggling: More than 70 illegal immigrants being smuggled in the back of a truck were clearly in trouble, but the driver ignored their cries for help, a woman who accompanied the driver testified.

"They wanted to get out. It was hot," Fatima Holloway said Wednesday at the trial of Tyrone Williams. Her testimony was to continue Thursday.

Williams, 34, a Jamaican citizen who lives in Schenectady, N.Y., is accused of driving the rig and abandoning the trailer at a truck stop near Victoria, about 100 miles south-west of Houston. Nineteen of the immigrants crammed inside the sweltering tractor-trailer died.

BTK serial killer: The man who authorities believe is the BTK serial killer reached the rank of sergeant in the Air Force and earned medals, including ones for good conduct and marksmanship, military records show.

Dennis Rader, 60, is accused of committing 10 murders between 1974 and 1981 in the Wichita, Kan., area. He allegedly coined the nickname that stood for his killing method. "Bind, Torture, Kill," authorities have said.

"His service was very much clean cut.... He did well," said Ursula Soto with the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis. "He was just a regular soldier."

Wis. church shootings: As loved ones said goodbye to one of the victims killed at a South Milwaukee church service over the weekend, authorities continued their search for a motive behind the shooting deaths.

Friends and relatives gathered Wednesday at a wake for Richard Reeves, 58, who police said was among the seven killed when Terry Ratzmann opened fire in a hotel conference room.

Reeves was religious but never tried to push his faith on anyone, recalled Pat Crivello, who worked with Reeves at a metalworking company.

Investigators effectively ruled out the possibility Wednesday that Ratzmann, 44, was set off by something he heard in a sermon two weeks earlier.

D.C.-area sniper case: A man was indicted Wednesday for allegedly buying a rifle for the Washington, D.C.-area snipers — though not the weapon used in the 2002 random shooting spree.

A federal grand jury indicted Earl L. Dancy Jr., 36, of Tacoma on one count of making a false statement in connection with the acquisition of a firearm. He faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted.

On a federal form when Dancy bought a .308-caliber Remington rifle from a Tacoma store, Dancy claimed he intended to use the weapon himself, the U.S. attorney's office said. During the November 2003 trial of John Allen Muhammad, he admitted under oath he bought it for Muhammad.

Martha Stewart's appeal: Perjury charges against a government witness are grounds for a reversal of Martha Stewart's conviction on charges of lying about a stock sale, her lawyer argued before a federal appeals court Thursday.

Lawyer Walter Dellinger argued that — although government ink expert Larry Stew-



Peterson murder case: Scott Peterson is escorted by two San Mateo County Sheriff deputies to a waiting van on Thursday in Redwood City, Calif. Peterson was taken to San Quentin State Prison after being sentenced to die for murdering his pregnant wife, Laci. Peterson is the 644th person awaiting lethal injection in California. Judge Alfred A. Deluchi denied a defense request for a new trial.

art was subsequently acquitted — the charges he had faced should lead to "virtually automatic reversal" of Martha Stewart's conviction.

Dellinger also said it was unfair of the government to play tapes of interviews with co-defendant Peter Bacanovic when Martha Stewart's lawyers had no chance to cross-examine him.

World

Rebuilding Paris airport: Officials said Thursday that they will rebuild the vaulted roof of Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport — which collapsed last year, killing four people — and plan to reopen the terminal in two years.

Aeroports de Paris said in a statement that it was not necessary to raze the entire structure.

Nepal protesters: Riot police arrested about 40 students Thursday who staged a strict government crackdown on street protests and marched through the capital, denouncing King Gyanendra's seizure of power and calling for the restoration of democracy.

Gyanendra seized power on Feb. 1, imposing emergency rule and putting top politicians in jail. The constitutional monarch claimed he dumped the government because of its failure to counter communist insurgents, who have been fighting since 1996 to abolish the monarchy and establish communist rule.

Chechnya talks: Chechnya's Moscow-backed leader ruled out any talks with separatist rebels Thursday at a one-day conference in Grozny that appeared aimed to overshadow a peace initiative in Strasbourg, France, by Europe's top human rights body next week.

President Alu Alkhanov said the killing of Chechen militant leader Aslan Maskhadov last week showed that the Kremlin's hard-

line policy towards the rebels was bearing fruit.

Syrian withdrawal: Syria's army and intelligence agents on Thursday completed the first phase of their pullback to eastern Lebanon and Syria, while a top Lebanese security chief said he and other officials were willing to stand trial to clear allegations of negligence in the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

The Syrian withdrawal comes ahead of Tuesday's summit of Arab leaders in Algeria. Syrian and Lebanon agreed earlier this month that Syrian troops and intelligence agents would redeploy in the eastern Bekaa Valley or withdraw to Syria before the end of the month.

Pakistan rape victim: A Pakistani woman who was gang-raped on orders from a village council said Thursday she wanted to see her attackers hanged, two days after four of the men were ordered released on bail pending an appeal of their death sentences to the Supreme Court. Six men were convicted in August 2002 of raping Mukhtar Mai, allegedly to punish her family after her brother had an illicit affair with a woman from another family. Four of the men were released on bail Tuesday, prompting an outcry from human rights officials. Mai said she feared for her life.

Palestinian truce: Palestinian factions meeting in Cairo agreed Thursday to continue an open-ended truce with Israel as long as certain conditions are met, a participant said.

"The truce will continue but it requires Israel to stop aggression against Palestinians and to release all the Palestinian detainees," Sakhar Habash, a member of the Fatah central committee.

He said all of the participants had agreed on the truce.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

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Officials crack down on fighting in school

By KEVIN DOUGHERTY
Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany — A high school fistfight last week featured gang overtones that has community officials in Wiesbaden and Darmstadt worried but determined.

The fight at Gen. H.H. Arnold High School in Wiesbaden involved five male students that the school's principal described as "gang wannabes." One of the five was struck so severely in the head he required hospitalization, primarily for a right-eye injury.

"I went up to the school afterward and there was blood all over the place," said a former student, who still resides in the community.

He and two current students spoke of the March 7 fight and the scope of gang activity in the school, but asked that they not be identified by name.

"It was over colors and a girl," said a 17-year-old student who witnessed part of the fight and knows the participants. "I find that stupid. I'm tired of the things that go on in the school."

So are community leaders.

The school immediately suspended the five students. Four received five-day suspensions and the other student got six.

But before those suspensions were over, the 221st Base Support Battalion, based in Wiesbaden, notified the parents of the five students that logistical support for the dependent would be withdrawn, pending a process that takes time.

"I have a very low tolerance for that kind of thing," Eric Goldman, the high school principal, said. Details of the fight are sketchy, but according to the teens, it may have involved a knife.

"We found no evidence of a knife," Donna Dean, spokeswoman for 221st BSB, said.

Goldman said he was told by one of the students who participated that the fight was a carry-over from a weekend encounter, but did not identify the students involved.

"It was pretty bad," said the other unidentified student, also 17. Three days after the fight, Goldman and Lt. Col. Christopher Franks, the 221st BSB commander, spoke to the students about the incident and the Army's policy on the early return of dependents.

Goldman said in a telephone interview Wednesday that the suspended students and other rabble-rousers represent a tiny fraction of the student body. He spoke glowingly of the academic achievements this year and noted that the majority of students are doing well in school. Gangs have no foothold in the school, he said, adding some teens "might be fascinated" by the subject, and may dress and talk the part, but it often ends there.

"They don't have to be Boy Scouts," Goldman said, "but we don't want them emulating this wrong kind of influence."

Lt. Col. Mark D. Landers, commander of the Darmstadt-based 233rd BSB, also attended the meeting last week, since so many Darmstadt teens go to the school. Landers plans to meet with parents in Darmstadt on Wednesday to explain the recent incident and how the command and school handles disciplinary problems.

Goldman is correct when he says a lot of the gang emulation is for "show," the former student said. But the principal is mistaken if he thinks it's all show and no substance. He then invoked the name of a few gangs operating in and around the community.

School fights are common, he said, "but [most aren't] like this one."

E-mail Kevin Dougherty at: doughertyk@mail.esr.pent.mil

"They don't have to be Boy Scouts. But we don't want them emulating this wrong kind of influence."

Eric Goldman
Gen. H.H. Arnold High School principal



ELIZABETH WILLIAMS/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Cmdr. Thomas Cashman, new commander of Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Four, reads his orders to the outgoing commander, Cmdr. Greg Adair, during a ceremony Wednesday at Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily.

Sigonella commander is relieved from duty early

Navy says personal issue distracting Adair

By SANDRA JONTZ
Stars and Stripes

The commander of Helicopter Support Squadron Four, based at Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily, was relieved of his command Wednesday, four months early because of personal reasons that Navy leaders said were distracting him from his job, a Navy spokesman said.

Cmdr. Greg Adair will be transferred to a staff job at the Joint Forces Command in Suffolk, Va., Cmdr. John Kirby, a Naval Forces Europe spokesman, said Wednesday.

"He was not fired," Kirby said. "He was allowed to leave early."

Information on Adair's personal situation came about as officials were investigating the Feb. 16 crash of an MH-53 Sea Dragon on the base's runway while on a training exercise. Four sailors sustained minor injuries.

"The mishap did not dominate the decision to transfer him early, but as a result of the investigation, leaders became aware of a significant personal issue that distracted the commanding officer from the rigors of command," Kirby said. He declined to elaborate on the personal issue, citing confidentiality and privacy laws.

The squadron referred all questions to

Kirby.

The four aircraft of HC-4 were grounded as a result of the crash. As of Thursday, they had not resumed flying, said Cmdr.

Cate Mueller, a spokeswoman for 6th Fleet. Cashman will make a recommendation to the chain of command as to when the helicopters should resume flying, though no timeline was available, Mueller said.

Adair, who took command of the squadron in May 2004, was replaced by

Cmdr. Mike Cashman, who was commander of Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14, Airborne Mine Countermeasures, in Norfolk, Va. The change of command ceremony took place Wednesday.

Command was not transferred to the squadron's executive officer, Cmdr. Eric Shirley, because he reported to the squadron in September, and does not have enough time with the squadron to assume command, Kirby said.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@mail.esr.pent.mil

statement said.

AAFPES sold one of the recalled models, the BL5000, as a promotional item last November for \$39.95, the announcement said.

Consumers should immediately stop using models BL5000, BL5900 and BL6000, and can return them to an AAFPES store for a full refund, according to the bulletin.

On Tuesday, AAFPES also announced that JVC rear-projection televisions sold in its stores in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico had been recalled because of a risk of overheating and fire. AAFPES sold 51 of the recalled models, the announcement said.

From staff reports

Acting AF secretary to retire

By LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Acting Air Force Secretary Peter Teets will retire by the end of this month after only two months on the job. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper said Wednesday.

Jumper's comments came during testimony by both men before the House Armed Services Committee. Teets took over the post when former secretary James Roche retired Jan. 20, and has also been acting simultaneously as the service's chief acquisitions officer.

Sources within the Air Force said he will be retiring from both jobs on March 25, and that Michael L. Dominguez, cur-

rently assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and reserve affairs, will take over as secretary when Teets steps down.

Dominguez, an Army veteran, has served in his current post since August 2001. No announcement was made as to whether he will serve as an interim replacement or be appointed the permanent secretary.

Teets is the retired president of Lockheed Martin Corp. and has held jobs with several other prominent aerospace firms. He also serves as the Defense Department's executive agent for space, overseeing all major defense acquisition programs.

During Wednesday's hearing, Jumper praised Teets for his role in the service's space research and combat programs.

"He has made space relevant to the warfighter," Jumper said.

E-mail Leo Shane at: shanel@stripes.osd.mil



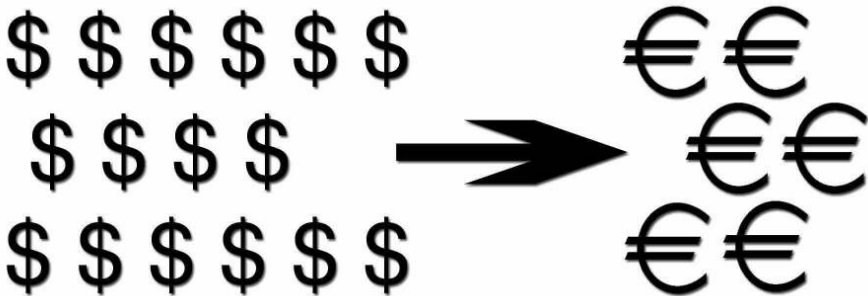
Teets

Blender sold at AAFES recalled

A Black & Decker-brand blender sold in Army and Air Force Exchange Service stores has been recalled by its manufacturer because of a tendency for its blades to break.

In a bulletin dated March 11, AAFPES announced that 18 incidences of broken blades had been reported in several models of the ProBlend series of blenders, triggering the recall of the product.

"The blades can weaken or break during use while making frozen beverages," the AAFPES announcement said. No injuries from broken blades had been reported, the



Right place, right time for best rate

Allowances help make base banks preferred spot to exchange dollars

BY TERRY BOYD
Stars and Stripes

BAUMHOLDER, Germany — Go to the Naples Personnel Support Detachment Web site and there's a wondrous number on a message crawling atop the screen.

"Today's euro rate is .7599." That's about 3 cents more than the military's Community Bank rate, which is relatively high compared with private banks' rates. Still, those how much the dollar's buying power has shrunk.

The dollar — once worth as much as 1.20 euro — has dropped about 38 percent against the 12-nation euro since early 2002.

Military personnel overseas can defray some of the pain by becoming exchange-rate savvy, as rates and terms vary widely between base banks and commercial banks in Europe. Still, getting the best rate often comes down to being at the right place at the right time. Lucky sailors in Naples are — for the moment — getting a better rate than the rest of Europe because the Navy PSD is still selling euros it bought when the dollar peaked earlier this month.

Chief Petty Officer Leonard Page, disbursing officer at the Naples PSD, said he orders euros bi-weekly, or more often if demand is expected to increase.

"On the three- or four-day weekends, they hit us pretty hard," Page said of PSD's customers.

ers. The Naples PSD gets dollars from the Frankfurt office of Bank of America, the San Francisco-based banking giant that operates the government-owned Community Bank for overseas military personnel.

The Naples PSD "is the largest cash operation in Europe," Page says. "You won't find another operation like it. They call us 'The Bank of Naples.'"

Page orders about \$8 million each month, supplying dollars and euros to cash cages, the Navy Exchange, the commissary and remote bases such as Gaeta Naval Support Facility, Page said.

The PSD sells the euros at cost: "The government's not allowed to make money," Page said.

But businesses are. Community Bank is a business, operated by Bank of America under contract for a flat fee, said Patrick T. Shine, director of military and civilian pay services at Defense Finance and Accounting Services. That said, the fees generated by services such as currency exchange don't go to Bank of America but go to help defray Community Bank operating expenses, Shine said.

Each day's exchange rate includes a 2.5 percent fee added to the bank-to-bank exchange rate — the money banks charge each other for currency, Shine said in a telephone interview from his Washington, D.C., office.

"This fee is used to defray the cost of currency acquisition and delivery to the customer at the [automatic teller machines] or teller window," Shine said.

The government's Overseas Military Banking Program has its own treasury, and shops for millions of dollars of currency every day, Shine said.

Buying at "bulk rate" yields better exchange rates for Community Bank customers, he said.

The Community Bank rates typically compare favorably to German banks even with the 2.5 percent fee. A sampling of exchange rates Friday, March 11, and Monday, March 15, showed that the Community Bank rate of .727 euros per dollar was higher than several German banks' rates.

The Volksbank-Raffaelsenbank in Baumholder was giving 719 euros per dollar and the Dresdner Bank in Darmstadt was giving .715 euros per dollar. The Commerzbank in Darmstadt nearly matched the Community Bank rate, at .72 euros per dollar.

But most banks charge a substantial fee to cash dollar checks, then convert them to euros for rent or utility payments.

When Europe-based Americans need euros, they often do the convenient thing — they go to the local military-authorized bank or credit union on base.

First Lt. William Weiland of the 501st Military Intelligence Battalion said he assumes the Community Bank at H.D. Smith Barracks in Baumholder offers better exchange rates than banks on the economy, especially for depositors. Weiland exchanges about \$1,000 for euros each month to pay his rent.

And Weiland is right for an unexpected reason.

What most don't realize is that

It pays to shop around

Stars and Stripes compared some fantasy purchases as well as typical expenses, calculating their cost using the spread of euro/dollar exchange rates over a two-day period, March 11 and 14. The best rate for euros was from the Naples Personnel Support Detachment — .7599 euros per dollar. The worst rate for euros was from Volksbank-Raffaelsenbank, Baumholder at .719 euros per dollar.

Purchase	Best	Worst
BMW X-3 with all options, 49,480 euros	\$65,114	\$68,818
Car payment of 500 euros	\$657.98	\$699.41
A four-day weekend in Paris with a 100 euro per night hotel room, and 100 euros per day in expenses — food, fuel, museum passes and metro passes per day — for a total of 800 euros	\$1,052	\$1,112.66
Rent of 1200 euros per month	\$1,579.16	\$1,668.98
Car repair bill — timing belt replacement on a BMW — 600 euros	\$789.58	\$834.49

Stars and Stripes

the 2.5 percent Community Bank exchange fee is offset by an equal increase in their overseas housing allowance and cost of living allowance, according to DFAS officials.

That's a revelation even to troops and their family members used to coping with foreign currencies.

First Lt. James Calladro of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment in Baumholder said he was surprised to learn that the 2.5 percent exchange fee is built into COLA and his housing allowance.

Others living overseas say euro accounts and a little planning can make the dollar go further. Many German banks waive currency transaction fees for account holders, according to bank employees.

For example, Deutsche Bank waives its fee of 4 euros 50 cents

per check and Kreissparkasse waives its 6-euro fee, according to bank employees.

Jack Dougan, a math teacher at Baumholder American High School, said he avoids some exchange fees by writing one check a month for his rent, utility bills, auto insurance and cash. His Kreissparkasse branch in Birkenfeld charges a 10-euro service charge, but gives an exchange rate 1.5 cents better than the posted rate, he said.

Customers still need to determine, however, whether that bank's exchange rate is better than their military bank's rate.

Another strategy is to use credit cards, which tend to give the best exchange rates, for travel, Dougan said. "Just don't forget to pay off your balance at the end of the month, or kiss those savings goodbye."

E-mail Terry Boyd at: boydt@mail.strips.esd.mil

Landstuhl going to computerized records

BY STEVE MRAZ

Stars and Stripes

U.S. servicemembers and their dependents will no longer see the chicken-scratch penmanship of doctors in their medical records at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany.

That's one of the benefits Command Health Care System II, a new computerized system that

will store patient medical records electronically, plans to offer.

"We joke about that stereotype, but it's true," said Dr. (Maj.) Joseph Flynn, chief of the medical oncology clinic at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. "With this system, you'll have type-written notes so everyone will know what has been done. That will improve care over time."

Training for the electronic record-keeping system will begin next week at Landstuhl. The goal is to have training completed at Landstuhl and its associated clinics by early June. The system is already in place at the U.S. Army hospital in Heidelberg.

Under the system, doctors at Landstuhl and hospitals within the system will be able to access accurate and up-to-date patient

records online. By the end of 2006, the system should be operating at all Department of Defense hospitals.

"This will ensure that all medical record information is together and transportable," Flynn said.

While the paperless record system aims to end the days of servicemembers logging their medical files to and from appoint-

ments, the system will contain only records dating to August 2002.

Landstuhl patients with upcoming appointments need to be patient during the transition period, Flynn said.

"Patients have to understand that there will be some delays, but those delays will be worked out over time," he said.

E-mail Steve Mraz at: mraz@mail.eastripes.osd.mil

Navy secretary eyed for top Air Force post

Rumors have England on short list as replacement for Wolfowitz as deputy defense secretary

BY DAVE MONTGOMERY

Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Navy Secretary Gordon England, laying weeks of rumors to rest, acknowledged for the first time Wednesday that he is on track to be the next Air Force secretary, even as his name surfaced as a leading candidate for the No. 2 post in the Pentagon.

The former Fort Worth, Texas, aerospace executive, questioned after an appearance on Capitol Hill, said he expects to be nominated for the Air Force post but declined to specify a timetable.

"I don't get to control the process, but I would guess in a matter of weeks or months," he said laughing. "Is that broad enough?"

England also has frequently been mentioned on the short list of potential replacements for Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, whom President Bush nominated Wednesday to head the World Bank. But, said England, "the only rumor I know about is I'm going to the United States Air Force."

Defense analysts and industry executives have said for weeks that England is all but certain to be nominated to replace departed Air Force Secretary James Roche, but the Navy secretary had consistently brushed aside the rumors, even during discussions with his own staff.

Roche stepped down in January after a series of scandals and internal problems. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said to be impressed with England's performance as Navy secretary, has increasingly turned to him for top Pentagon assignments and wants to transfer him to the Air Force to help stabilize the troubled service, analysts say.

"I haven't been nominated for it, but it is pending," said England. "I expect it will happen."

Loren Thompson, a defense analyst with extensive contacts in the Pentagon, said England is in the final stages of a background check, adding, "There is no question that he's Rumsfeld's candidate."

But with Wolfowitz leaving the Pentagon, Thompson also raised the possibility that Rumsfeld might abruptly shift gears and name England as his deputy.

"Wolfowitz's decision may open up a position that Gordon England is even better suited for," said Thompson, an executive with the Lexington Institute in Arlington, Va. "Having gone into the background check, it would be very easy to plug him into the deputy's job."

A defense official, speaking on condition of anonymity because of England's pending nomination, confirmed that Bush plans to name England to the Air Force post with Rumsfeld's blessing, possibly within two weeks. But he also acknowledged that "rumors were flying around today" that England could also wind up replacing Wolfowitz.

The official described the rumors as "pure hall gossip," in contrast to the Air Force nomination, which he characterized as "on track" and "not a rumor."

"If this changes that or not, I don't know," he said, referring to Wolfowitz's departure.

England, a former executive at Lockheed and General Dynamics, has earned the confidence and trust of both Bush and Rumsfeld since becoming Navy secretary at the start of the Bush administration in 2001.

A Bush began reshuffling his administration at the start of a second term, England often was touted as a likely replacement for Wolfowitz. Thompson and other defense experts say England would also be a leading contender for defense secretary if Rumsfeld leaves.

In replacing Roche, England would be charged with restoring the Air Force's image after a stormy period that included a procurement scandal involving Boeing tankers, sexual harassment allegations at the Air Force Academy and budget cuts in high priority Air Force weapons programs, notably Lockheed Martin's F/A-22 and the C-130J transport.



President Bush meets with Defense Deputy Secretary Paul Wolfowitz in the White House on Wednesday. Wolfowitz, a key architect of the Iraq war whose hard-line foreign policy stance as deputy defense secretary has stirred criticism, has drawn mixed reviews for being nominated to take over as chief of the World Bank.

Wolfowitz World Bank nod met by overseas concerns

BY JOCELYN GEEKER

The Associated Press

PARIS — Around the world, the notion of U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz leading the World Bank met with reactions that ranged mainly from official reserve to outright denunciation, but there was some support.

Wolfowitz, nominated Wednesday by President Bush, is widely seen as a key instigator in the U.S. push to topple Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. International organizations worried about the nominee's hawkish politics and questioned whether he is right for the job.

Bush, who has sought to mend ties with European allies that opposed the Iraq war, called French President Jacques Chirac to tell him the news.

Chirac, one of the staunchest critics of the war, "took note of this candidacy," his office said, adding that "France would examine it in the spirit of friendship between France and United States and with an eye on the capital mission of the World Bank to the service of development."

Japan, a U.S. ally in the Iraq war, gave its support to Bush's choice. The Japanese Foreign Ministry said Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi expressed support for Wolfowitz in a phone conversation with Bush.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda lavished praise on Wolfowitz. "He's a great person and he is well-versed in issues regarding development in Asia," Ho-

soda said. "Japan would like to support Mr. Wolfowitz."

One of those most vocally opposed to the idea was U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan's top poverty adviser.

"It's time for other candidates to come forward that have experience in development," Professor Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and an Annan adviser, said in a speech to the U.N. Economic and Social Council.

"This is a position on which hundreds of millions of people depend for their lives," he said. "Let's have a proper leadership of professionalism."

The United Nations had no comment. Development and anti-poverty groups joined the chorus of criticism.

"As well as lacking any relevant experience, he is a deeply divisive figure who is unlikely to move the bank toward a more pro-poor agenda," said Patrick Watt, policy officer at British charity Action Aid.

Dave Timms, spokesman for London-based World Development Network, called it a "terrifying appointment" that highlighted a lack of democracy in major lending institutions. A European traditionally heads the International Monetary Fund, while an American takes the helm at the World Bank.

"You can't have a situation where rich countries lecture developing countries about democracy and then aren't prepared to exercise democracy in this kind of appointment."



Navy Secretary Gordon England

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Shiites, Kurds make progress on coalition

Sides continue to discuss military, territory control

By PATRICK QUINN
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Kurdish and Shiite politicians said Thursday they made headway in solving new disagreements in their deal to form a coalition government, nearly seven weeks after Iraqis took to the polls, but it remained unclear when that new government would be announced.

The talks came after Iraqi legislators were sworn in Wednesday as members of the 275-seat National Assembly, vowing to uphold freedom and democracy two years after the fall of Saddam Hussein.

Thursday's discussions focused on whether to allow the Kurdish peshmarga militia to remain in Kurdistan as part of the Iraqi security services and army, and on setting a timetable for the Kurds to assume control of oil-rich Kirkuk and allow the return of its nearly 100,000 refugees. Those conditions were included in an interim law that serves as a preliminary constitution.

"Negotiations were very constructive and the differences in the interim law and peshmarga were solved. We have agreed that some peshmarga will join the Kurdistan police and some will be part of the Iraqi army, with the same equipment and salaries and take orders from the defense ministry in Baghdad," said Azad Jundiyan, a spokesman for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan — the political party of Jalal Talabani, who probably will become Iraq's next president.

"I think that the new government will be announced on March 26 after the end of Nowruz [the Persian new year]," he said.



Iraqis look over a car that was damaged in an engagement after U.S. troops came under fire Thursday in Ramadi, Iraq, according to witnesses. A young girl standing nearby was injured and rushed to a local hospital, the witnesses said.

The interim constitution has no set time limit on forming the government after the National Assembly convenes. But once it elects a president with a two-thirds majority, a prime minister must be chosen within two weeks.

Earlier, a member of the Shiite-dominated United Iraqi Alliance said there was agreement on issues such as the peshmarga, and more talks would be held.

"The army units in Kurdistan will be mixed and follow the orders of the central government. As for the police force they will be formed from the people of Kurdistan," Ali al-Dabagh said.

President Bush called the session a "bright moment" for Iraq but added there was no timetable

for withdrawing U.S. troops.

Also Thursday, insurgents fired a mortar at a central Baghdad hotel housing Western journalists, but hotel employees said the round caused minor damage and no injuries.

Police near the southern city of Basra discovered the bodies of three men and one woman whose hands were bound and who were shot in the head. Danish troops blocked off the road around the area, and the identities of the four were unclear.

The U.S. military said it had released a hostage and detained two Iraqi men during a raid late Wednesday near Beiji, 155 miles north of Baghdad. The statement did not identify the hostage fur-

ther, saying only that he had been a "kidnap victim."

In Kirkuk, gunmen late Wednesday shot dead a police brigadier who was head of the northern city's criminal investigations department, said Kirkuk police chief Maj. Gen. Torhan Abdul Rahman.

Also Wednesday, a U.S. soldier died in a roadside bomb blast south of Baghdad, the military said, while a car bomb northeast of the capital killed four Iraqis and injured 15.

Meanwhile, outgoing U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte flew out of Iraq on Thursday after a nearly nine-month stint to return to the United States, the U.S. Embassy said. Charge d'affaires James F. Jeffrey will assume re-

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Wednesday, at least 1,517 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,156 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense Department. The figures include four military civilians.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 20; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, eight; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Kazakhstan and Latvia one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,379 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 1,047 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Since the start of U.S. military operations in Iraq, 11,285 U.S. servicemembers have been wounded, according to a Defense Department tally released March 8. There was no update this week.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A U.S. soldier died Wednesday of injuries from an explosion south of Baghdad.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ None reported.

responsibility for the vacant post temporarily.

Negroponte has been nominated by Bush to be the U.S. director of national intelligence.

Bomb kills five, injures 32 in Afghanistan

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — A bomb exploded near a taxi carrying women and children in the southern city of Kandahar on Thursday, killing at least five people and wounding 32, while visiting Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said the United States erred by not doing more for Afghanistan after the Soviets withdrew in 1989.

Police blamed Taliban-led militants for the attack that hit the passing taxi, a roadside restaurant and other bystanders in downtown Kandahar, but a purported Taliban spokesman denied responsibility.

Rice was in the capital, Kabul, about 280 miles to the north, at the time.

The attack broke a relative lull in violence in Afghanistan and could shake U.S. military confidence that the resistance by Taliban militants is fading.

President Hamid Karzai condemned the attack as a terrorist act by "enemies of Afghanistan," but insisted security was improving.



A unidentified family member of a U.S. soldier killed in a roadside blast Thursday in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The Taliban denied involvement in the blast.

However, he said Afghan parliamentary elections originally scheduled for May will be delayed until September, nearly four years after the fall of the Taliban regime.

Rice said the United States would support Afghanistan as it prepares for the vote and called its re-emergence from years of war an inspiration.

American forces in Kandahar helped cordon off the area around the attack in a busy commercial district.

Mullah Hakim Latifi, who claims to speak for the Taliban, denied the movement was behind the attack.

In a phone call to The Associated Press, he described the victims as "innocent people of Afghanistan."

Denmark's troops will stay in Iraq, PM says

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Denmark will likely keep its 530 troops in Iraq until the country's nascent armed forces and police are capable of taking over security, Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen said Thursday.

On a surprise visit to Baghdad, Fogh Rasmussen said his country and other NATO nations would help train Iraqi forces to help lay the groundwork for an eventual withdrawal of multinational troops.

"Denmark will assist the Iraqi people in different ways, in ensuring security and stability, in training of security forces, in reconstruction and economic development," he said.

Denmark has been a staunch supporter of the U.S.-led efforts in Iraq, and Danish lawmakers will in June decide whether to extend the country's mission in the country for another six months.

The country has 530 troops stationed in the southern Iraqi city of Basra as part of a roughly 170,000-troop coalition made up mostly of U.S. troops.

Amputee seeks to make recovery, return easier

Army major knows her subject in depth: She lost both legs in an ambush in Iraq

BY LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Weeks after losing both legs in an ambush in Iraq last November, Maj. Tammy Duckworth told her counselors at Walter Reed Army Medical Center she wanted to return to flying Black Hawk helicopters.

On Thursday, she spoke before a Senate panel on ways lawmakers and the Army can make achieving that goal — and helping all of the injured soldiers from the global war on terror — a little easier.

"No one laughed at me, no one told me I was insane," she said.

"There have been soldiers ahead of me who were allowed to stay in, and they told me about them."

"But there's no counselor who's saying, 'Here's what you need to do next.' You really have to make an effort if you're injured and want to stay in [the service]."

Thursday's hearing before the Senate

Veterans Affairs Committee was designed to review successes and problems with post-injury care and rehabilitation.

Officials from the Government Accountability Office noted that while systems have improved the Defense Department needs to better monitor servicemembers to ensure they are receiving the care they need and are aware of the transition programs available.

Duckworth, a Hawaii native who was serving with the Illinois National Guard, said she would like to see new technologies — things like better prosthetics and wheelchairs — available to more soldiers and more care centers, and better job counseling services for injured veterans who can't or don't want to return to duty.

"There is also room for improvement in the hand-holding process," she said.

"AVA representative was speaking to my husband as I was regaining consciousness. But as you go on, you meet so many people and get so many business cards, it

"... [T]here's no counselor who's saying, 'Here's what you need to do next.'"

Maj. Tammy Duckworth
who lost both legs in an ambush in Iraq



LEO SHANE/Stars and Stripes

Army Maj. Tammy Duckworth, who lost both legs in an RPG attack in Iraq in November, speaks with Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, before testifying to the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee on Thursday. At right is her husband, Capt. Bryan Bowlsbey.

can be hard to sort through. There needs to be a checklist of things to look for."

Several senators expressed concerns about soldiers being assigned to care centers too far from family and friends. Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., said his major concern is not so much with the level of care now "but in two years, three years, are we going to continue that?"

David Hosking, a counselor with the Madison (Wis.) Veterans Center, said he

worries that many troops, both those injured and those who believe they've returned unaffected, don't understand the medical benefits available upon their return.

The problem, he said, is that many don't focus on information sessions presented to them because of the excitement of being home and the anticipation of reuniting with their families.

E-mail Leo Shane at: shanel@stripes.osd.mil

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IN THE WORLD

Rice: Pakistan on 'a democratic path'

BY ANNE GEARAN

The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Thursday called on Pakistan to continue down "a democratic path" that will lead to free and fair elections in 2007, but also praised the nation's military president for his courage in the war on terrorism.

"This is not the Pakistan of Sept. 11. It is not even the Pakistan of 2002," Rice said at a news conference.

Rice declined to comment directly on whether President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, who seized power in a 1999 coup, should give up his control of the armed forces and become a civilian leader. But she did say that Washington took democratic progress seriously.

"We did talk about the need for democratic reforms in Pakistan," Rice said. "We continue to work with Pakistan and we look forward to the evolution of a democratic path toward elections in 2007."

Rice lauded Pakistan for its help in the war on terror, and for helping promote stability in neighboring Afghanistan. Al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden is believed to be hiding along the border with Afghanistan.



U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, right, addresses a joint news conference with Pakistan's Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri on Thursday in Islamabad, Pakistan. Rice praised the nation's military president for his courage in the war on terrorism.

AP

ward to the evolution of a democratic path toward elections in 2007."

Musharraf earlier this week said his forces had come close to catching bin Laden last year, but that the trail has since grown cold. Pakistan has handed over hundreds of other suspects to the United States, including several senior al-Qaida leaders.

Rice met with Musharraf and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz on Wednesday, before heading to Afghanistan for a whistlestop visit.

Rice — who has already visited India — returned to Pakistan Thursday afternoon for meetings with her counterpart, Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri, and

other leaders.

Kasuri strongly defended his country's democratic credentials, saying Pakistan has the freest media in Asia, a significant number of women in government and takes extra precaution to defend the rights of minorities.

During her trip to Afghanistan, Rice praised Afghan efforts to clamp down on the heroin trade and Afghan President Hamid Karzai predicted drug production will drop significantly this year.

In a March 4 report, the State Department said that more than three years after installing a pro-U.S. government, Afghanistan has been unable to contain opium poppy production and is on the verge of becoming a narcotics state.

Rice also applauded Afghan steps toward democracy, including presidential elections that marked the first time many Afghans had ever cast votes and said the United States will not abandon the country.

In honor of the green

Who else but the saintly man himself could lead the St. Patrick's Day parade down O'Connell Street in Dublin, Ireland, on Thursday? More than 500,000 turned out to watch, but while the midday parade passed in a jovial, family-friendly atmosphere, police were braced for probable alcohol-fueled trouble in the afternoon and evening.



AP

U.S. won't criticize China on human rights

GENEVA — The Bush administration will not propose a U.N. resolution critical of China's human rights policy this year because of recent "positive steps" by Beijing, U.S. officials said Thursday.

The decision removes one of the major flash points of the annual six-week session of the 53-nation U.N. Human Rights Commission, which began Monday.

Crude oil futures prices hit new high

LONDON — Crude oil futures prices soared above \$57 a barrel for the first time Thursday after OPEC's pledge to increase output failed to assure traders who were worried about tight supply.

Light, sweet crude for April delivery rose 39 cents to \$56.85 a barrel in early trade on the New York Mercantile Exchange, after reaching as high as \$57.50 overnight.

Heating oil rose more than 2 cents to \$1.6145 a gallon. Brent crude also reached new highs, hitting \$56.15 a barrel before edging back. In afternoon trading it was up 83 cents to \$55.71 on the International Petroleum Exchange.

From The Associated Press

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EU delays talks with Croatia

Nation nurses disappointment with a sense of humor

BY EUGENE BRIC
The Associated Press

ZAGREB, Croatia — There had been fears of a nationalist backlash and even a wave of collective depression. But a day after the European Union delayed Croatia's bid to start membership talks, Croats are nursing their disappointment with a sense of humor.

"EU-thanasia," the popular weekly Feral Tribune splashed on its front page Thursday, with a photograph of Foreign Minister Kolinda Grabar Kitarovic lying on a hospital bed, applying an ice-pack to her forehead.

Radio commentators quipped that nothing could stop Croatia from moving closer to the EU — citing seismological research that showed tectonic movements were shifting Croatia 1.5-centimeters to the northwest every year.

Alen Olivic, a computer technician, was stoic about the rejection.

"If they don't want us, we don't need them either," he said. "We should become a neutral country oriented toward tourism, ecology and producing organic food."

EU foreign ministers decided to postpone membership negotiations with Croatia on Wednesday, because the Zagreb government has not sent fugitive former general Ante Gotovina to the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague. Talks were to have opened Thursday; the EU set no new date.

Luxembourg Foreign Minister



Croatian Prime Minister Ivo Sanader listens to translation at the European Parliament on Wednesday. The EU delayed the start of membership talks with Croatia because the government has failed to surrender a former Gotovina general to the U.N. war crimes tribunal for trial.

Jean Asselborn, who chaired the EU meeting, stressed "the EU's door is open for Croatia" and said entry talks can open on short notice if Croatia works harder to bring Gotovina to justice.

Prime Minister Ivo Sanader urged Croats to remain optimistic and held out hope that last-ditch efforts to convince the international community that his country was doing its best to capture Gotovina would bear fruit.

U.N. prosecutors allege Gotovina was the mastermind behind the murder of dozens of minority Serbs and the expulsion of up to

200,000 others in a 1995 military campaign to recapture lands seized by Serbian rebels following the breakup of Yugoslavia.

Gotovina has been in hiding since his indictment in mid-2001. The government insists he is not in the country.

While some Croats reacted to the EU decision with indignation and resentment, the prevailing sentiment appeared to be one of resignation.

"Maybe it is traumatic for politicians, but it's hard to say how ordinary people are dealing with the news," said psychologist Aleksandra Bandic.

17 missing in Turkish landslide

ANKARA, Turkey — A landslide in central Turkey buried 21 houses Thursday, and at least 17 people were reported missing, the area's governor said.

The landslide struck the village of Sugozi, near the town of Koyulhisar in central Anatolian Sivas province, early in the morning. It was not clear what caused the landslide, an officer with the paramilitary police said.

he area in the hopes of saving villagers.

Tanning bed regulation sought

GENEVA — Governments should pass laws on the responsible use of sun beds and ban their use by people under age 18, the U.N. health agency said Thursday.

The increased popularity of artificial tanning beds is a key reason for the rapid increase in skin cancer, particularly among young women in Europe and North America, the World Health Organization said.

Each year, over 2 million people — half of whom live in the United States — develop skin cancer, and 132,000 are found to have malignant melanoma, WHO estimates.

German troops leave Aceh province

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — Germany pulled its military forces out of Indonesia's tsunami-hit Aceh province Thursday, leaving behind tons of equipment at a battered hospital and promising to play a role in long-term reconstruction.

Germany has pledged \$683 million of public funds to help victims of the Dec. 26 earthquake and tsunami disaster that hit 11 Indian Ocean countries and killed or left missing more than 300,000 people, the government said in a statement.

Greenpeace dumps dead dolphins

LONDON — Activists from the environmental group Greenpeace dumped the bodies of two dead dolphins on the steps of the French embassy in London on Thursday to protest French fishing practices.

The group says French fishermen kill up to 2,000 dolphins every year.

British cops foil high-tech robbery

LONDON — British police foiled a high-tech attempt to steal millions of pounds from a Japanese bank's London offices by accessing its computer system and making money transfers, authorities said Thursday.

Israeli police, working with British officers, arrested a man Wednesday in connection with the attempt to rob money from the Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group Inc., police in Israel said in a statement.

From The Associated Press



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IN THE STATES

Congress weighs in on Florida's right-to-die case

BY JESSE J. HOLLAND
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress was immersed Thursday in the controversy over removing the feeding tube from a brain-damaged Florida woman whose husband has been given permission by a state court to let her die.

Within hours of the Republican-controlled House's passage of a bill to block the removal of Terri Schiavo's feeding tube, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., announced the Senate would take up a separate bill to address the situation before leaving for his Easter recess on Friday.

"The question is, should we allow her to be starved to death?" Frist said Thursday in a Senate speech. "It has to do with the culture of life. And I believe this body is going to have to speak on this particular matter before we leave."

Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada said he sees potential problems with the legislation, but said he was willing to work with the Republicans to try and resolve them.

At the White House, press secretary Scott McClellan said the case raises "a lot of complex issues" and declined to comment on specific legislation. But he said

Bush "stands on the side of defending life."

Schiavo's husband has battled her parents over his efforts to allow her to die, which he contends she would prefer rather than live in a vegetative state.

On Thursday, Schiavo's parents, Bob and Mary Schindler, filed an emergency motion at the Supreme Court to stop the removal of her feeding tube so lower courts can consider whether their daughter's religious freedom and due process rights have been violated.

In Florida, the state House passed a bill Thursday that could keep Terri Schiavo alive. The House bill blocks the withholding of food and water from patients in a persistent vegetative state who didn't leave specific instructions refusing the artificial measure. It passed 78-37.

The Senate was expected to take up its own bill later in the day, and the differences between the two bills could be impossible to reconcile before Friday, some legislators have said.

The bill in the U.S. House passed on a voice vote. It would move such a case to federal court. Federal judges have twice turned down efforts by the parents to move the case out of Florida courts, citing a lack of jurisdiction.

Robert Blake acquitted of killing his wife in '01

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Actor Robert Blake was acquitted of killing his wife four years ago because the state simply didn't make its case, jurors said, citing flimsy evidence and a pair of unbelievable witnesses.

The panelists talked about the four-month trial Wednesday after finding Blake not guilty of one count of murder and one charge of trying to get someone to kill Bonny Lee Blake. They deadlocked 11-1 on a second solicitation charge, which then was dismissed by the judge.

"They couldn't put the gun in his hand," jury foreman Thomas Nicholson said outside the court-

house. "There was nothing. Supplication, more than evidence." In court, Blake trembled and sobbed when he heard the verdicts that took jurors nine days to reach. He had faced life in prison. Later, after jurors spoke with reporters, Blake stepped up, praising his defense team and talking about how the case left him broke.

He then went on to attack some friends and associates who had given interviews about him. "They're liars and I'm easy to find and I'm not a bit bashful and if any of them have any agenda, we can certainly sort it out," he said.

One point, Blake asked whether anyone in the crowd had something to remove his electronic monitoring bracelet. He then bent down and cut off the ankle device.

Bakley's daughter Holly Gawron, 14, also sobbed after the verdicts were read and later said she looked forward to proceeding with a wrongful death lawsuit filed against Blake by her family.

Striking up the band



New York City Police Officer Bill Donahue plays the bass drum as the NYPD pipe and drums group warms up on Thursday for the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York.

Bush advocates peace in Ireland

BY NEDRA PICKLER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush marked a St. Patrick's Day overshadowed by recent setbacks in the Northern Ireland peace process by pledging to help the Irish people move toward a lasting agreement.

"As you work for peace, our government and the American people will stand with you," Bush said Thursday after receiving a traditional bowl of shamrocks from Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern.

Allegations have arisen about the Irish Republican Army's involvement in a bank heist and a tavern murder. As a result, Bush scratched from the invitation list political leaders who attended for 10 years, including Sinn Fein head Gerry Adams.

Sinn Fein is the legal political arm of the outlawed Irish Republican Army. The IRA is accused of

"As you [Ireland] work for peace, our government and the American people will stand with you."

President Bush

mourning the world's largest cash theft — stealing the equivalent of \$50 million from a Belfast bank on Dec. 20. It also has been blamed for killing Catholic civilian Robert McCartney on Jan. 30.

Bush also was meeting with McCartney's fiancée and five sisters at a reception later at the White House. They were not at the public event and Bush didn't mention them there.

Ahern said the 1998 Good Friday peace agreement has improved the political landscape, but more work needs to be done to achieve lasting peace.

"Recent events have damaged confidence, but they have also crystallized what must now be done to finalize the process and achieve stable partnership governments in Northern Ireland," Ahern said.

McCartney was beaten and stabbed to death outside a Belfast pub.

His sisters have led a campaign to bring his killers to justice, saying more than 70 potential witnesses are too afraid to identify anyone responsible to police because local IRA figures allegedly were involved.

"I'm looking forward to meeting these very brave souls," Bush said. "They've committed themselves to a peaceful solution, and hopefully their loved one will not have died in vain."

Alaska wary after Senate vote on oil drilling

BY MATT VOLZ
The Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska — The tiny north coast town of Kaktovik officially supports responsible development of oil and gas. But many reacted warily to the Senate vote to allow drilling in their back yard.

Even with just 284 residents, Kaktovik is the largest town on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge's coastal plain. Mayor Len Sonsalla said just about everyone has concerns about changes that could accompany any work in the 1.5 million-acre stretch, where billions of barrels of crude oil are believed to rest beneath the tundra.

A scant majority of the Senate agreed Wednesday to allow oil and gas development on the state's northern coast.

Sonsalla said his town, 850 miles from Juneau and more than 3,000 from Washington, must have a say in developing the rules for oil and gas work in the refuge, and residents' access to traditional hunting and fishing areas must be preserved.

Fenton Rexford, tribal administrator of the Native village of Kaktovik, agreed. The Inupiat village's traditional lands are governed separately from the city of Kaktovik.

Rexford said the tribal government's responsibility is to protect traditional hunting and camping areas and cemeteries.

"There's monetary value and then there is value as far as subsistence sites, camping sites, fishing sites," he said.

Reaction to the Senate vote by the state's political leaders was enthusiastic. For decades, Alaska politicians have urged Congress to open the refuge to drilling. Those calls grew louder with the decline of oil moving through the trans-Alaska pipeline in recent years.

Opening the refuge to drilling would give oil companies access to an estimated 10.4 billion barrels of crude oil, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. The Senate still must pass the budget package in which the proposal was included. The House must take up the issue in an energy package.

OPINION

Not oppose to go to Iraq war can bring

BY MONA ELTAHAWEY

The invasion of Iraq was the equivalent of a bucket of freezing water thrown in the face of an Arab world in deep slumber.

There, I've said it. Can we move on now? There is a way to talk about the effect of the Iraq war on the rest of the Arab world without actually supporting that war. This time last year and the year before, I marched in demonstrations in New York against the war on Iraq, which I did not believe was launched in the name of democracy and freedom. But we would be lying to ourselves if we didn't acknowledge that the United States' occupation of Iraq is a major catalyst for what has been happening lately, be it in Egypt, Lebanon or Saudi Arabia.

As an Egyptian man told me recently, if there was a "domino effect" sparked by the invasion, it was one of questions.

"The U.S. invasion revealed the ability to overthrow one of the worst tyrants around and led to this question: If this regime collapsed, why not the others? Why shouldn't Syria leave Lebanon? Why shouldn't we change the Egyptian regime? Isn't it enough (*kifaya*) already?"

Kifaya indeed. The word is the slogan of Egypt's National Campaign for Change, which has staged several demonstrations calling for an end to President Hosni Mubarak's 24-year rule. It has appeared on banners in anti-Syrian demonstrations in Beirut. But ultimately Arabs have been saying *kifaya* to violence. Beheadings, shock and awe, checkpoint shootings and the loss of thousands of lives in Iraq have sickened Arabs. It is no mean feat that demonstrations in Cairo and in Beirut — both for and against Syria — have been peaceful.

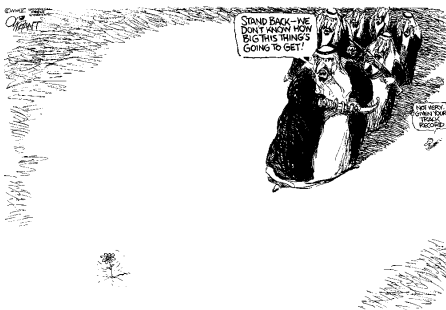
But I have a *kifaya* of my own: Enough already to the tiresome intellectual tropes that liberals and neoconservatives are wasting time on as they argue over the war.

In the United States it is almost impossible to separate support or opposition to the Bush administration from support for the democratic aspirations of Arabs. The endless tango of "for" or "against" the war that the Bush administration and its opponents insist on dancing wastes time and conveniently ignores murky details both sides would prefer to forget.

I'm tired of having to remind those who supported the war of the moral failures of Abu Ghraib and of rendition, by which the United States sends terrorism suspects to countries — such as my own, Egypt — where they are likely to be tortured. The violence unleashed on Iraq is appalling and most often targets ordinary Iraqis whose numbers remain uncounted in this country and whose stories always lose out to the kidnappings and deaths of non-Iraqis.

I'm equally fed up with having to remind those who opposed the war that in their rush to condemn the Bush administration, they should not ignore or condone the continued tyranny of Arab leaders; that as vehemently as they oppose the Bush administration, they must not forget that Arab dictators are simply that — dictators.

And, no, I haven't forgotten that the current administration, like its predecessors, continues to support many of those same dictators. It's heartening to hear President Bush say that authoritarian rule in the Middle East is the "last gasp of a discredited



past" — but disappointing when he focuses only on Syria.

I'm still waiting for the Bush administration to urge Egypt to end emergency laws that have been in effect since Mubarak assumed power in 1981. I'm still waiting for the United States to urge the Saudi royal family to release reform activists whose only crime was to sign a petition calling for change.

So now what? We must not lose attention or interest. Just as I have acknowledged the jolt the Arab world felt from the Iraq war, so it is imperative to remember that if

there hadn't been civil societies already in place in the Arab world, such a jolt would have found no echo.

Brave Arab men and women have for decades toiled for the sake of rights and better lives for their compatriots.

Their work must be acknowledged and supported. The conversation about change in the Arab world must be about them and about ordinary Arabs, not about scoring points for or against the Bush administration.

Mona Eltahawy is a New York-based columnist for the pan-Arab publication *Asharq al-Awsat*. Her Web site is www.monaeltahawy.com. This column first appeared in *The Washington Post*.

In China-Taiwan relations, status quo is a net gain

BY MONTE R. BULLARD

Global Beat Syndicate

The United States and Taiwan should welcome China's efforts to formally define and codify its position on relations with Taiwan.

While it may not offer the answer some in Taiwan would hope for, it does mean movement by Beijing's leaders toward the rule of law — one of the legitimate concerns Taiwan's leaders have about China's ability to abide by future agreements.

Taiwan's leaders are correctly wary of an unregulated student war with China because historically China has changed agreements too easily by executive fiat. The recent altering of the Hong Kong Basic Law is an example.

Involving the National People's Congress in the process is positive step. While the NPC used to be a pure rubber stamp for the Communist Party, over the past 25 years it has increased, in fits and starts, its voice in internal decision-making. That began when the NPC played a role in calling to account government incompetence in the Pohai Gulf oil-rig disaster of 1979, and began to grow in voice and power until it was severely constrained again after the Tiananmen demonstrations in 1989.

Over the years younger, more active and more competent people have been elected to its ranks, and while it has not reached the point of being able to "check-and-balance" the Communist Party or even the government, the NPC is moving in that direction. This new anti-secession law could give the NPC more leverage in national decision-making.

Importantly, the new anti-secession law

should not be viewed as a legal framework for starting a war with Taiwan. Rather, it is part of the effort to pluralize decision-making in China and make it more difficult for just a few leaders to start a war with behind-closed-doors decisions.

Some NPC members come from provinces, counties or cities, such as Kunshan just outside Shanghai, which now are almost completely dependent on Taiwan. The more than 1 million Taiwanese who are permanent residents in China (living there more than 300 days a year); the more than 50,000 Taiwanese companies that hire millions of Chinese workers; and the more than \$100 billion of Taiwanese investment in China are all factors likely to influence some of those legislators as their role in negotiations between Beijing and the provinces becomes increasingly important.

Some have described the anti-secession law as a "war law." But Chinese officials insist that it offers no timetable for unification.

Rather, it is designed to counter any moves in Taiwan that are perceived as going too far in the direction of independence. That could help define the limits of what constitutes "moving too far" toward independence, thus introducing more certainty into the equation. Every time Beijing clarifies exactly which Taiwanese actions would result in war, the onus of starting a war falls on the shoulders of Taiwan's leaders, who continue to push the independence envelope.

While Taiwan's leaders are reacting angrily, and the anti-secession law may have short-term implications, both sides should avoid negotiating a long-term status for Taiwan. Both sides should recognize that

the status quo is the best solution in the short term — even if there are different definitions of the status quo. Both sides also should recognize that the long-term solution is neither total independence nor total unification. Some form of confederation will have to suffice.

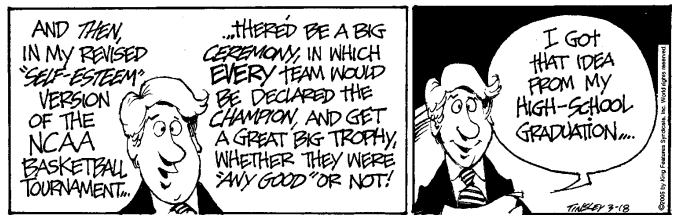
Neither side should begin to create laws that hinder the search for a long-term solution, but both sides should create laws that help to establish a peaceful environment in which meaningful negotiations can take place 10 or 20 years down the road.

Meantime, the United States should quietly support the effort to move China steadily toward democratization through increased pluralization at the top.

Monte R. Bullard is the author "Strait Talk: Avoiding a Nuclear War between the United States and China Over Taiwan." He was a liaison officer in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing for several years before retiring as a U.S. Army colonel.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



Girl injured by tree

HI HONOLULU — A 12-year-old girl was in critical condition this week after undergoing surgery for injuries she suffered when a large tree snapped at its base and crashed through the roof of her home in Manoa, striking her as she slept.

Julia Engle was at The Queen's Medical Center with major injuries to her head and chest, according to a family statement.

Mark Pennington said his niece, a Punahou School seventh-grader, was sleeping when a Norfolk pine estimated to be 70 to 80 feet high fell across Beckwith Street and through the roof into the girl's bedroom around 5 a.m.

"You hope for the best, but you have a whole bunch of fears," he said.

A tree also knocked down a utility pole, causing a power outage in the area.

City hires big-time help

KY OWENSBORO — A California company that has created two major Las Vegas attractions is designing a water feature for the city's riverfront.

However, Owensboro's design won't be as grand as the dancing fountain in front of the Bellagio Hotel and The Mirage's volcano. City officials hope to raise between \$1 million and \$1.5 million in private funds for the attraction.

Sheriffs to address cuts

OH COLUMBUS — County sheriffs plan to visit the Statehouse to tell lawmakers about funding cuts that have forced some to lay off deputies and cut patrols. Gov. Bob Taft's budget proposal includes a 20 percent cut in funding to local governments.

Woman dies during race

UT MOAB — As Sheri Haymore moved closer to the finish line after running nearly 13 miles, she complained lightly about her legs feeling weak, but nothing more.

With just 100 yards to go in Canyonland's Half Marathon, the Riverton woman staggered a bit and sat down. Emergency crews rushed in.

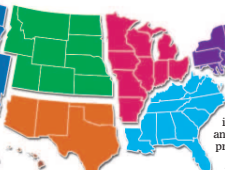
"She asked the paramedic, 'Please let me finish,'" Haymore's sister, Lori Robbins, recalled.

They said no and laid her down on the ground. Haymore, a 41-year-old mother of three daughters, closed her eyes and died from an apparent heart attack.

"She was so determined to finish the race," Robbins said. "She was reaching for her goal."

Warden placed on leave

AL BIRMINGHAM — Donaldson Correctional Facility's warden was placed on leave after warning of "catastrophic circumstances" at the overcrowded state prison near Birmingham. Stephen Ballard listed his concerns in a memo to State Corrections Commissioner Donal Campbell. Three days later, Campbell placed Ballard on 10-day leave. Corrections



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

spokesman Brian Corbett said he could not comment on reasons for the leave.

With space for about 1,000 prisoners, Donaldson holds 1,625 inmates in conditions that have overloaded the prison's sewage system.

Breaking ice jams

ME PORTLAND — Three Coast Guard cutters will head up the Kennebec River to break up ice jams and ease the threat of spring flooding. The vessels will spend a week busting through the ice between Bath and Gardiner.

Sex with inmate charges

TX SAN ANTONIO — A guard faces felony charges for allegedly having consensual sex with a female inmate at the medical unit of the Guadalupe County Jail.

Albert DeLeon was fired in January and faces the state jail felony charge of violation of the civil rights of a person in custody, improper sexual activity with a person in custody.

He is accused of having sex with a 34-year-old female inmate in December. The inmate is serving a 30-year sentence for trying to hire a hit man to kill her husband, a Seguin police officer, officials said.

DeLeon was indicted by a grand



Saving the stranded

Personnel at the Marine Mammal Conservancy in Key Largo, Fla., lift a rough-tooth dolphin in order to conduct a medical examination. The dolphin is one of about 68 that stranded March 2 off the Florida Keys.

jury last week. He faces up to two years in prison.

"This is a black eye for law enforcement," Guadalupe County Sheriff Arnold Zwicke said.

"However, we will not tolerate that kind of behavior. He used poor judgment and he will have to pay the price."

Authorities learned of the incident by a jail worker who found mail from the woman detailing the sexual encounter.

Zwicke said DeLeon worked at the jail for less than a year.

Fighting for revenue

IN EAST CHICAGO — City officials are fighting for control of millions of dollars in riverboat casino revenue that flows to three community foundations they call a vestige of East Chicago's "old politics." The city's former city controller, recently sent to an 8-year prison term for misappropriating city funds, is still paid \$30,000 a year by two of the foundations.

Under a 1994 agreement, the foundations each receive up to 1 percent of the casino revenue to disburse to community organizations.

State House flunks

RI PROVIDENCE — State officials have 90 days to come up with a plan to bring the State House into compliance with the new fire codes.

Inspectors found 32 fire-safety violations beneath the marble dome.

And while some problems have been fixed, officials said the remaining items pose major challenges for balancing fire safety and historical character, public access and security.

The Fire Safety Code Board of Appeal & Review gave administration officials more time — until June 14 — to come up with a plan addressing the other violations.

Inspectors said the State House lacks sufficient smoke and heat-detection devices. And they said something needs to be done about the State House rotunda, because such "atriums" should be separated from adjacent spaces by fire barriers.

Man rides out avalanche

AK HATCHER PASS — A man rode out an avalanche on his skis after triggering the slide on a steep slope in fresh powder blanketing the Talkeetna Mountains.

With spring break under way, the avalanche-prone slopes have rangers warning skiers and snowmachiners to take extra care.

Sandy Tolmie, 44, ended his brief, speedy ride buried in his chest in snow at the base of an avalanche roughly 200 feet wide and 300 to 400 feet long, said state parks ranger Pat Murphy.

The bulk of the avalanche stopped several feet above him, Murphy said.

Had the slide progressed much farther, the weight could have buried and crushed Tolmie, he said. "He managed to stay on his skis the whole time, which is real hard to do. ... He's lucky."



Tense spot Members of the California Department of Forestry and the Fremont Fire Department try to calm a young boy as they consider how to rescue him from Alameda Creek outside Fremont, Calif. Firefighters were eventually able to free the boy, whose leg was caught in the dam. He was pulled to safety after he freed his leg and went over the dam.



Whoa! Hold on, Dad The feet of Nola Muscatello, 2, of Albany, N.Y., slide out from under her as she is pushed around the ice rink by her father, Barry Muscatello, at the Empire State Plaza in Albany.



Happy little 'soldier' Five-month-old Malachi Alaniz plays with his mother, Nellie Alaniz, as they wait at Cooper Field in Fort Hood, Texas, for their father and husband Sgt. Esteban Alaniz to return home after serving more than a year in Iraq.



Pink power

From left, Patrick Kerley, 10; Tia Tucker, 10; Hunter Kerley, 5; and Nathan Tucker, 7, tow a large pink slipcover around their home in Brookport, Ill.



Get off my snow!

Wayne Lietzke, trollic in the Amarillo snow.

Callie and Ben, dogs belonging to Amarillo, Texas, resident



Shadow play

Matt Olinger throws to the target after fielding a ground ball during Little League tryouts for Huntington County Baseball in Huntington, Ind. Olinger was trying out for the Sandy Koufax League for players ages 13 and 14.



Delicate feeding

A baby eaglelet born in the San Francisco Zoo gets her lunch in San Francisco.

Boy recovering after fall

OH CINCINNATI — A 1-year-old boy is recovering nicely after a three-story plunge from an apartment.

Police believe an 11-year-old boy who was staying at the apartment tossed Lavontia Clark out the window.

When Lavontia awakened the 11-year-old, the boy apparently got frustrated and threw the baby out of the window, police Lt. Paul Broxterman said.

The 11-year-old, whose name was not released, was charged with felonious assault. The baby's mother, Lavontia Clark, said her son didn't break any bones but suffered a gash on the back of the head and some scratches on his arms. Some tree branches slowed his fall, she said, and he landed in soft mud.

"I'm happy he's still alive, amen to that. I'm just trying to stay focused on him, watching him," Clark said.

Commissioner confirmed

MD BALTIMORE — The City Council voted to confirm Leonard Hamm as the city's police commissioner. Hamm will become Mayor Martin O'Malley's fourth commissioner since 1999. Hamm, a 22-year city police veteran, was named acting commissioner after O'Malley fired Kevin Clark last fall.

Welcome for heroes

AR LITTLE ROCK — Thousands of Arkansas veterans of the war in Iraq and their families can enjoy a "Welcome Arkansas Heroes" concert and free lunch May 21 at War Memorial Stadium, the Arkansas National Guard said. About 3,000 Guard members started training in October 2003 and were deployed to Iraq in March 2004. They are all expected to be back in Arkansas by mid-April.

Learning standards set

FL MIAMI — The state Board of Education adopted key learning standards for the voluntary prekindergarten program being offered to all Florida 4-year-olds beginning in August. The standards emphasize reading and language skills. As many as 150,000 new students could enroll in the program, which would be the largest of its kind in the country.

New plan for math

NY ALBANY — The state Board of Regents overhauled how schools will teach high school math. Under the plan, schools will teach one-year courses of algebra, geometry and a third course called algebra 2 and trigonometry. The courses will replace two courses that taught the concepts in a more integrated way. The regents will decide when to start the new math approach after a public comment period.

Casino proposal bill

MN ST. PAUL — Gov. Tim Pawlenty pushed his casino proposal as a way to lift up poorer, northern Minnesota Indian tribes. The bill authorizing the casino requires participating tribes to demonstrate they lack money to meet housing, medical care and

other basic needs of members. The Leech Lake, White Earth and Red Lake Chippewa are expected to meet those criteria.

School working on policy

CO BOULDER — The University of Colorado is working on a racial harassment policy after a series of recent incidents. Ron Stump, vice chancellor for student affairs, said he met with several students and campus groups as well as black faculty and staff members to discuss how the school can address racial intolerance. Fewer than 450 black students are enrolled at CU.

Wandering wallabies

KY POOLE — A strange sight from Down Under startled residents of this western Kentucky community.

Members of the Poole Homemakers Club were at a meeting downtown when they looked out and saw what they thought was a kangaroo.

Nedra Wilson, first to spot the animal, said it looked like a deersie and around a carport. He then headed south on U.S. 41-A, she said.

"I bet it was going 25 mph," she said. "He was really getting it. We haven't had that much excitement in Poole in a while."

Actually, the animal that club members saw was likely a wallaby, a small kangaroo that is native to Australia. There were two of them on the loose after they escaped their pen.

The animals belong to the family of Stephen and Betty Bell. The family moved to Poole about six months ago. Stephen Bell is from Australia. The Bells said the animals escaped. One was later recaptured and the other returned on its own.

Plans for healthy classes

NM LAS CRUCES — New Mexico State University officials have proposed adding a "making healthy choices" curriculum to English 111, a basic course taken by most students in their early semesters. They believe its small classes and discussion format make it ideal for talking about the dangers of party life and violence in relationships. The school has recorded two student deaths from drinking since November.

Doctor convicted

MO ST. LOUIS — An area physician called "Dr. Feelgood" by a federal prosecutor was convicted of nearly 200 federal counts for attempting to dispense more than 2.5 million illegal doses of prescription drugs. From June 1999 through May 2003, prosecutors said Dr. Harry Meyer Katz, 79, illegally sold prescriptions for \$40 each for Vicodin, Darvocet, Xanax and Valium. Katz faces up to five years in prison.

Society endorses hunts

NJ BERNARDSVILLE — The state Audubon Society is endorsing the use of hunts, hired guns and other measures to thin the state's 200,000-strong white-tailed deer herd. The organization says population-control measures must be increased to preserve the state's forests. The group says deer have become an ecological menace.

Stories and photos from wire services

AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil>

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2005

(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MC)	(AFN-EUROPE)	(AFN-KOREA)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-PACIFIC)
9:30 Morning News Sage's-Sameas Cat	Movie A Family of Cats (1995, Daniel) Charles Brown, Daniel Baldwin	Dr. Phil Jeopardy!	Headline News	Headline with Chris Matthews	College Baseball NCAA Tournament First Round - Teams TBA, From Boise, Idaho, Cleveland, Indianapolis or Tucson, Ariz. (Taped)	30/30 Easy Entertaining-Charelle	Jeopardy! Headline News
10:00 Franklin Franklin is late		19:40 Oprah Winfrey 35/35 Guiding Light	ESPNs Advisory Board	The O'Reilly Factor Nightline	College Baseball NCAA Tournament First Round - Teams TBA, From Boise, Idaho, Cleveland, Indianapolis or Tucson, Ariz. (Taped)	Decorating Cent The Look Live	ESPNs Pacific Report
11:00 Sage's-Sameas Cat	(14:5) Movie "...The Peltin Brief" (1990, Suzanne) Julia Roberts, Denzel Washington. An inquisitive law student becomes the target of assassins.	(17) General Hospital Judge Judy	The O.C. "Family Ties"	Nightly Business Report PrimeTime Thursday	College Baseball NCAA Tournament First Round - Teams TBA, From Boise, Idaho, Cleveland, Indianapolis or Tucson, Ariz. (Taped)	The World of Quatern That '70s Show	The O.C. "Family Ties"
11:30 Stanley Dora the Explorer		20:00 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Survivor: Palau	American Morning	College Baseball NCAA Tournament First Round - Teams TBA, From Boise, Idaho, Cleveland, Indianapolis or Tucson, Ariz. (Taped)	Girlfriends Charmed "Black as Cole"	Survivor: Palau
12:00 Bob the Builder Dragon Tales	Movie *** Singles * (1992) Bridget Fonda, Campbell Scott. Romantic critics abound for young adults in Seattle.	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	The Apprentice The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
13:00 Barney & Friends (E)	Movie *** Singles * (1992) Bridget Fonda, Campbell Scott. Romantic critics abound for young adults in Seattle.	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
13:30 Funtastic Home Videos	20:51 Movie *** The American President (1998, Comedy-Drama) Michael Douglas, Anne Heche, Martin Sheen.	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
15:00 Growing Pains	20:51 Movie *** The American President (1998, Comedy-Drama) Michael Douglas, Anne Heche, Martin Sheen.	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
16:00 Pokemon	20:51 Movie *** The American President (1998, Comedy-Drama) Michael Douglas, Anne Heche, Martin Sheen.	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
16:30 Pokemon (Part 2 of 2)	20:51 Movie *** The American President (1998, Comedy-Drama) Michael Douglas, Anne Heche, Martin Sheen.	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
17:00 Doug (E)	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
17:30 The Wild Thornberrys Hyena	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
18:00 The Fairly OddParents	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
18:30 Rugrats	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
19:00 The Fairly OddParents	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
20:00 Dave the Barbarian Rugrats	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
20:30 Drake & Josh	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
21:00 Introducing "The Secret" / Phil of the Future My Way	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
22:00 Switched	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
22:30 Radio Free Roscoe	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
23:00 The Cosby Show	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
23:30 Home Improvement	Kate Winslet Revealed The Life of Kate Winslet	20:10 The Wiggles "Zorro Zap"	Teacher's Pet (E)	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Tennis Pacific Live Open - Women's Quarterfinals, From Indian Wells, Calif. (Taped)	Any Day Now Three Witches Transformed	The Apprentice
SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2005							
00:00 Doug "Doug Gets Booked"	01:10 Movie *** "Dumb & Dumber" (1994) Jim Carrey, Mike Myers	Access Hollywood Late Show-Letterman	The Fairly OddParents Powerful Girls!	Headline News NBC Nightly News	SportsCenter College Baseball NCAA Tournament First Round - Teams TBA, From Charlotte, N.C., Nashville, Tenn., Oklahoma City or Worcester, Mass. (Live)	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	The Fairly OddParents Dave the Barbarian
1:00 The Fairly OddParents	12:47 Movie *** "Mission: Impossible 2" (2000, Action) Tom Cruise, Dougray Scott, Thandie Newton	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Danny Phantom Drake & Josh	ABC World News Tonight CBS Evening News	College Baseball NCAA Tournament First Round - Teams TBA, From Charlotte, N.C., Nashville, Tenn., Oklahoma City or Worcester, Mass. (Live)	JAG "Touchdown"	Danny Phantom Anne & Josh
2:00 The Fairly OddParents	12:47 Movie *** "Mission: Impossible 2" (2000, Action) Tom Cruise, Dougray Scott, Thandie Newton	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Danny Phantom Drake & Josh	ABC World News Tonight CBS Evening News	College Baseball NCAA Tournament First Round - Teams TBA, From Charlotte, N.C., Nashville, Tenn., Oklahoma City or Worcester, Mass. (Live)	JAG "Touchdown"	Danny Phantom Anne & Josh
3:00 Dave the Barbarian	12:47 Movie *** "Mission: Impossible 2" (2000, Action) Tom Cruise, Dougray Scott, Thandie Newton	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Danny Phantom Drake & Josh	ABC World News Tonight CBS Evening News	College Baseball NCAA Tournament First Round - Teams TBA, From Charlotte, N.C., Nashville, Tenn., Oklahoma City or Worcester, Mass. (Live)	JAG "Touchdown"	Danny Phantom Anne & Josh
4:00 Introducing "The Secret"	12:47 Movie *** "Mission: Impossible 2" (2000, Action) Tom Cruise, Dougray Scott, Thandie Newton	College Basketball Teams to Be Announced (Live)	Danny Phantom Drake & Josh	ABC World News Tonight CBS Evening News	College Baseball NCAA Tournament First Round - Teams TBA, From Charlotte, N.C., Nashville, Tenn., Oklahoma City or Worcester, Mass. (Live)	JAG "Touchdown"	Danny Phantom Anne & Josh
5:00 Sesame Street (E)	(1:05) Movie *** "Sesame Hospital" (1999) Johnny Deep, Colonial villagers lose their heads to a phantom horseman.	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
6:00 Barney & Friends (E)	(1:05) Movie *** "Sesame Hospital" (1999) Johnny Deep, Colonial villagers lose their heads to a phantom horseman.	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
7:00 Planet's Funniest Animals	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
8:00 Amazing Animal Videos	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
9:00 Lilo & Stitch	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
10:00 Sage's-Sameas Cat	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
11:00 Shrek	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
12:00 Winx Club "Grounded" (E)	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
13:00 Teen Titans	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
14:00 Power Rangers Dino Thunder	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
15:00 Angelina (E)	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
16:00 Justice League	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
17:00 Teen Kids News (E)	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
18:00 Cyberchase	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
19:00 Trading Space: Boyz II Men	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
20:00 Strange Ways: Space History	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
21:00 Planet's Funniest Animals	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
22:00 Wild America	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
23:00 Discovery Kids Ultimate Guide to the Awesome "Top 10"	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
24:00 Mercedes: The Legendary Younger Years	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
1:00 Doug "Doug Direct" (E)	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
2:00 The Wild Thornberrys	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
3:00 The Fairly OddParents	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
4:00 Rugrats "Angelica in Love"	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
5:00 Movie *** "Lilo & Stitch" (2002, Comedy/Fantasy of Dashi-Cho, Tai Carter)	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
6:00 Movie *** "The Cheatah" (1989, Action-Drama) Raven, Lynn Whitfield	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
7:00 Movie *** "Big Daddy" (1999, Adam Sandler: A goofy pre-adolescent takes on an irresponsible young man)	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
8:00 American Idol	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
9:00 American Idol	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno
10:00 The Simpsons	Movie *** "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" (1982, Science Fiction) William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Headline News The Tonight Show With Jay Leno

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FACES



NBC UNIVERSAL/EP

Above: Lorraine Bracco, second from left, plays Carla Grizzano on the new "Law & Order" spinoff, "Trial by Jury." Also pictured from left are Susan Blommaert, Bebe Neuwirth and Any Carlson. Right: Bracco is taking her positive message about antidepressants public.

Whacking depression

'The Sopranos' actress wants to end the stigma on antidepressants

BY DERRIK J. LANG
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The irony has not escaped Lorraine Bracco.

For five seasons as psychiatrist Dr. Jennifer Melfi on HBO's "The Sopranos," the actress has battled mob boss Tony Soprano's mental demons. But for a year and a half in real life, Bracco was fighting clinical depression with medication and therapy.

"If you break your leg, you have it fixed," Bracco, 50, said recently.

"If you have a toothache, you go to the dentist. When it comes to mental health, people tend to think they can just get over it."

Bracco's ready to talk about her fight with depression in hopes of knocking out stigmas about antidepressants and their effects.

The mother of two went to drug manufac-

turer Pfizer in hopes of getting the word out. She has a series of commercials and a Web site, www.depressionhelp.com, with information about antidepressants.

"I don't blame anyone or anyone," Bracco said. "I think it was lack of education about medication. I thought if I need medication, I must be really sick."

Bracco — who has appeared in more than 30 movies, including "GoodFellas," "The Basketball Diaries" and "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues" — acknowledges she wasn't feeling too keen after battling for custody of daughter Stella with ex-husband and actor Harvey Keitel, dealing with Stella's juvenile rheumatoid arthritis and declaring bankruptcy after splitting with actor Edward James Olmos.

"I just had a lot of really big things that kept pounding me and I would let all these things rule my life instead of my dreams and wishes," Bracco said.

"I was doing everything. I was being a



PFIZER/AP

good mommy. The laundry was done. They had food. They were driven to school and extracurricular activities, but I was joyless in it. It just became a chore for me."

Looking back, Bracco said she was dealing with depression for over a decade. It wasn't until 1997, after she'd been cast in "The Sopranos," that she followed the suggestion of a friend to seek professional help.

"I was very afraid to go on any kind of medication because I was afraid it was going to dull me, which is not true," Bracco said. "I think a lot of people think you'll become a zombie."

But antidepressants didn't hinder Bracco's performance in "Sopranos," and she eventually escaped the depression.

"I was on the medication for a year and a half and went into the doctor's office and said, 'I don't really need this anymore,'" said Bracco.

"I haven't been taking it for five years, six years."

If the story ended here, it'd be a happy ending for Bracco. She bought a house in the Hamptons. Stella's in college. Bracco goes back to shooting the sixth season of "Sopranos" in April. She's also appeared in the new "Law & Order" spinoff, "Trial by Jury."

And she's been dating 30-year-old former Syracuse University basketball player Jason Cipolla for almost three years.

"A good relationship doesn't hurt anybody," Bracco said. "Let's be fair, younger or older. That's been very nice for me."

'Apprentice' idea lawsuit

A Southern California man who sued NBC Universal, Donald Trump and the creator of "The Apprentice" in federal court last year on claims they stole his idea now is suing in state court.

In the Superior Court lawsuit filed Monday, Mark Bethen claims that he and the Velocity Entertainment Group came up with the idea for an unscripted series called "C.E.O." The lawsuit said the series would be set up in a corporate office environment, with Trump as its host.

The lawsuit is against Mark Burnett and his partner, Conrad Riggs. It claims Bethen pitched the idea to Burnett and Riggs in 2001 and they later lifted "substantial and integral material" from "C.E.O."

A phone call to an NBC representative seeking comment early Wednesday wasn't immediately returned.

The federal lawsuit, which sought dam-

ages for copyright infringement, breach of implied contract and unfair competition, estimated that Burnett, Trump and the network had made more than \$100 million from the NBC reality show.

Snoop playing Copenhagen

Denmark got the Dogg. Snoop Dogg, that is.

Organizers of the annual Roskilde Festival said Wednesday in Copenhagen that the rapper is set to play the annual music show this year.

The artist, whose real name is Calvin Broadus, last visited Denmark in 1998. His latest release, 2004's "R&G — Rhythm and



Snoop Dogg

Gangster: The Masterpiece," spawned the hit single "Drop It Like It's Hot."

Other artists scheduled to play during the June 30-July 3 festival include Black Sabbath, The Goo, The Roots, and Junior Senior.

Last year, 75,000 tickets were sold for the outdoor event.

First held in 1971, the festival was inspired by the 1969 Woodstock Festival in upstate New York.

The event, which in recent years has been shown on MTV, attracts visitors from throughout Europe and the United States.

Hilton: Mexico is hot

Paris Hilton arrived in Mexico to promote her perfume, book and film projects, saying she also wants to shop and visit the pyramids.

"I love Mexico," Hilton, star of the TV reality series "The Simple Life," told report-

ers in Mexico City on Tuesday. "The people are so nice."

Hilton said her namesake fragrance "smells like flowers."

The 24-year-old hotel heiress has a role in "House of Wax," a remake of the 1953

Vincent Price horror movie. The new film, starring Elisha Cuthbert, is scheduled for release in the United States on May 6.

Her book, "Confessions of an Heiress: A Tongue-in-Chic Peek Behind the Pose," was published last year.

Hilton was expected to participate in a 1960s-themed fashion show along with other celebrities during her visit.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Hilton

Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



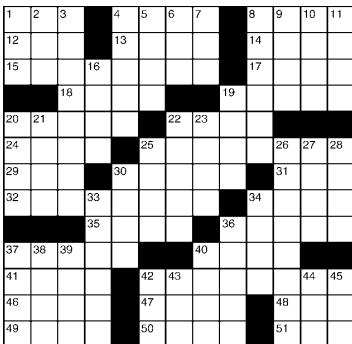
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Puncturing tool
- 4 Sail support
- 8 Hormel product
- 12 Privy
- 13 H-dos-0?
- 14 Exile isle
- 15 Track event
- 17 Us (Fr.)
- 18 Continue
- 19 Shoe-box datum
- 20 Cap feature
- 22 Soundrel
- 24 "The jig is—"
- 25 Auto parts store supply
- 29 Actor Wallach
- 30 Hitchcock villains
- 31 Man-mouse link
- 32 Swamps
- 34 Nabokov novel
- 35 Follow orders
- 36 Code of tenets
- 37 Bricolage
- 41 Exam format
- 42 Considerable period
- 46 Faction
- 47 Jai —
- 48 —Magon
- 49 Pay attention
- 50 Apporition
- 51 Shade provider

Down

- 1 The whole shooting match
- 2 Court
- 3 Forte
- 4 Captain's superior
- 5 "Son of —"
- 6 Amount of money
- 7 Eavesdropping device
- 8 Doddering
- 9 Trudge along
- 10 Touch
- 11 TV show set in Asia
- 16 Greasy stuff
- 19 Entanglements
- 20 Panorama
- 21 Man is one
- 22 Robust
- 23 Tackles' teammates
- 25 Suitcase
- 26 Look of melancholy
- 27 Barbershop request
- 28 "Mens — in corpore ..."
- 30 Family newcomer
- 33 Lounged about
- 34 Mline bruin
- 36 Orphaned calf
- 37 Snack
- 38 Pennsylvania port
- 39 Virginia of tennis fame
- 40 Estival pest
- 42 Felon's flight
- 43 Bullring bravo
- 44 It may start <http://>
- 45 "Pink Panther" actor Herbert

Answer to Previous Puzzle



3-18

CRYPTOQUIP

V S Y G V B A R G W Q W
 B Q Y K W M V C N K W Q Z S Y E B .
 O L Z L D E D F F L E W E R W
 H V N R B J W L C Y E L C V A
 J O L L H ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I BELIEVE IF SOMEONE DEMOLISHES A ROOF, HE SHOULD GET IN TROUBLE FOR EAVESDROPPING.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals O

RACING STRIPES

A WEEKLY LOOK AT MOTORSPORTS

Cutting corners

Cheating is part of the game in NASCAR

BY JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

There's an old saying in NASCAR: If a team ain't cheating, it ain't trying. With a murky rule book open to various interpretations, drivers and crews constantly push the limits to see what they can get past inspectors.

"Being creative is my job," crew chief Chad Knaus said when he earned his first major penalty in 2002. "I'm going to get fined and penalized for being creative, then that's just part of it. Besides, the other guys are cheating more than we are."

Maybe so, but Knaus and his peers might start thinking about following the rules to the letter of the law: Knaus and two other crew chiefs were suspended last week as NASCAR cracked down on its culture of cheating.

All three crew chiefs will be allowed to compete in Atlanta this weekend while the National Stock Car Racing Commission prepares to hear their appeals next week.

Knaus was suspended for two weeks and fined \$35,000 after race-winner Jimmie Johnson's car was found to be too low following a victory in Las Vegas. Johnson was docked 25 points, which cost him his spot atop the Nextel Cup standings.

Make no mistake about it, Johnson should consider himself fortunate he was allowed to keep the victory.

NASCAR has a long-standing tradition of not changing the race winner

after an event. The argument is that it is confusing to the fan, who just cheered his driver on to victory, only to go home and read in the next day's paper that his guy actually didn't win.

But in NASCAR's push to stop cheating — the sanctioning body first relied on monetary fines, then upped the stakes to docking points in 2002 before issuing Tuesday's suspensions of Knaus and the crew chiefs for Kevin Harvick (one month) and Kyle Busch (two weeks) — taking victories just might be the next step.

NASCAR might have to become, as word spread through the Nextel Cup circuit about the suspensions, some considered the penalties a slap on the wrist.

"I've got three drivers who would trade \$25,000, 25 points and a suspension for a win," said Chip Ganassi, car owner for Sterling Marlin, Jamie McMurray and Casey Mears.

"You want to stop cheating? Take the wins away."

The problem is, NASCAR never will be able to 100 percent police cheating — because what it deems illegal, a crew chief

"I've got three drivers who would trade \$25,000, 25 points and a suspension for a win."

You want to stop cheating? Take the wins away."

Chip Ganassi

Car owner for Nextel Cup drivers Sterling Marlin, Jamie McMurray and Casey Mears

might view as a loophole in the rules.

The late Smokey Yunick was the master of massaging the rule book, maintaining that if something was

not specifically outlawed, it was assumed to be legal. It led to a decades-long feud between Yunick and NASCAR's ruling France family, and inspectors spent hours each week picking over Yunick's race entries.

In one of the most notorious Yunick stories, NASCAR questioned the fuel mileage of one of his cars after rivals accused him of having an oversized fuel tank. NASCAR removed the fuel tank, and after a heated argument, Yunick climbed into his car and drove it away without a fuel tank.

Now that Brian France, grandson of NASCAR founder Bill France, is running the sport, he's more interested in integrity than the tradition of teams trying to pull a fast one over on inspectors.

"Anybody is free to be as aggressive against the line as they want to be, that's their job — to go all the way to the line but still be in compliance," France said. "If they miscalculate, even in the smallest way, we have to address it to maintain the credibility of the rules process."

Car owner Rick Hendrick has maintained that the penalties against Knaus and Busch crew chief Alan Gustafson were too harsh and he is appealing. So is Childress, even though Berrier told reporters that his boss encourages him to tweak the rules.

But at least one driver said NASCAR is finally on the right track.

"It's getting to the point where NASCAR doesn't want to see people cheating. They want it to be fair for everybody, which I think is great," said 2000 series champion Bobby Labonte. "By NASCAR taking points away and fining them and giving them suspensions, it keeps escalating."

"It's going to get to a point where everybody says this is way too much. Is it too much right now? No, but it's taking steps to get people's attention, I guess."

NEXTEL CUP

Race 4: Golden Corral 500
Atlanta Motor Speedway
6:30 p.m. CET Sunday,
AFN-Atlantic.

Last race: Jimmie Johnson led a race-high 107 laps and held off hometown boys Kyle and Kurt Busch to win the UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400 in Las Vegas. Johnson, Kyle Busch and car owner Rick Hendrick were docked points by NASCAR on Tuesday for failing post-race inspections.

Last year: A week after he nearly was parked for running too slow, Dale Earnhardt Jr. zoomed by Jeremy Mayfield with 15 laps to go and sprinted to an easy victory.

Driver to watch:
Jeff Gordon

The four-time Nextel Cup champion has started the year in high gear, winning four times at Daytona and finishing fourth last week. Gordon has won four times at Atlanta, a track that has been hospitable to Chevrolet. Chevy's have won four races there in the last 13.



DRIVER STANDINGS

After 3 of 36 races

1. Kurt Busch	510
2. Jimmie Johnson	500
3. Greg Biffle	428
4. Jeff Gordon	416
5. Carl Edwards	348
6. Tony Stewart	402
7. Rusty Wallace	395
8. Ryan Newman	369
9. Mark Martin	374
10. Kevin Harvick	369
11. Dale Jarrett	357
12. Mike Bliss	351
13. Elliott Sauter	348
14. Jamie McMurray	348
15. Casey Mears	325

BUSCH SERIES

This week: Aaron's 312 at Hampton, Ga. (Tape-delayed, Sunday, 1 p.m. CET, AFN-Pacific).

Last race: Mark Martin moved into the lead when Carl Edwards had a flat tire, extending Martin's Busch-record victory total to 47 in the Sam's Town 300 at Las Vegas.

Next race: Pepsi 300, March 26, Lebanon, Tenn.

FORMULA ONE

This week: Malaysian Grand Prix at Kuala Lumpur.

Last race: Giancarlo Fisichella won the season-opening Australian Grand Prix on March 5. Michael Schumacher crashed with 12 laps remaining after starting on the back row of the grid because of an engine change.

Next race: Bahrain GP, April 3, Sakhir.

INDY RACING

This week: XM Satellite Radio Indy 200 at Avondale, Ariz. (Tape-delayed, 1 p.m. CET Sunday, AFN-Atlantic).

Last race: Dan Wheldon led 158 of 200 laps en route to a dominant victory in the season-opening Toyota Indy 300 at Homestead, Fla. on March 6.

Next race: Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, Fla., April 3.

CRAFTSMAN TRUCKS

This week: World Financial Group 200 at Hampton, Ga. (Tape-delayed, 2:30 p.m. CET Saturday, AFN-Sports).

Last race: Steve Park earned his first truck series win in the American Banker Trucks 200 at Fontana, Calif., seven months before he suffered a serious head injury at Darlington.

Next race: Kroger 250, April 9, Martinsville, Va.

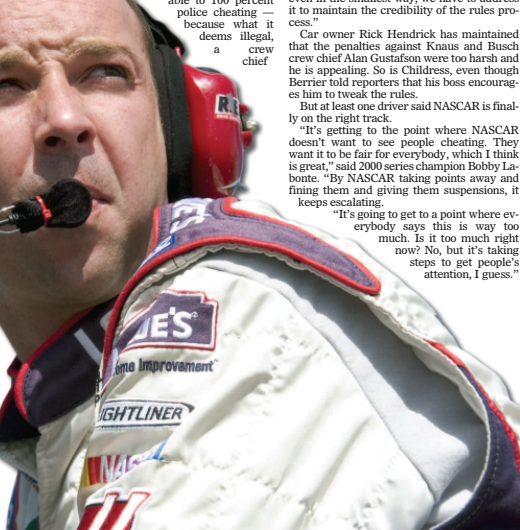
CHAMP CARS

Next race: Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach (Calif.), April 10.

Standings for other series on Page 28.

Chad Knaus, above, crew chief for Jimmie Johnson, was suspended for two weeks and fined \$35,000 after race-winner Jimmie Johnson's car was found to be too low following a victory in Las Vegas. Johnson was docked 25 points, which cost him his spot atop the Nextel Cup Standings. Hendrick Motorsports is appealing Knaus' punishment.

AP



Men's NCAA tournament

OPENING ROUND

Tuesday, March 15
Oakland, Mich. 79, Alabama 64 (69)
SYRACUSE REGIONAL
First Round
Friday, March 18
Charlotte (2-7) vs. North Carolina State (13-13)
Connecticut (22-7) vs. C. Florida (24-8)
Minnesota (21-10) vs. Iowa State (18-11)
North Carolina (27-6) vs. Oklahoma, Mich. (13-18)

Second Round
Sunday, March 20
Connecticut/Central Florida vs. Charlotte/North Carolina
North Carolina/Oakland, Mich. vs. Minnesota/Iowa State
Florida/Ohio vs. Villanova/New Mexico
Kansas/Bucelloni vs. Wisconsin/Penn. State

Seminals
Friday, March 25
North Carolina/Oakland, Mich. vs. Minnesota/Iowa State winner vs. Florida/Ohio-Villanova/New Mexico
Connecticut/Central Florida vs. Charlotte/North Carolina vs. Kansas/Bucelloni vs. Wisconsin/Penn. State

Championship
CHICAGO REGIONAL
Thursday, March 17
Wisconsin-Milwaukee vs. Alabama 73
Boston College (24-4) vs. Pennsylvania (25-8)
Texas (26-10) vs. Nevada (24-6)
Illinois (32-1) vs. Fairfield Dickinson (22-12)

Friday, March 18
Alabama (24-6) vs. Southeastern Louisiana (24-8)
Illinois (32-1) vs. Saint Mary's, Calif. (25-8)
Second Round
Saturday, March 19
Boston College/Pennsylvania vs. Wisconsin-Milwaukee vs. Fairfield Dickinson vs. Texas/Nevada

Championship
Sunday, March 20
Alabama State vs. LSU/Alabama-Birmingham
Oklahoma State/Southeastern Louisiana vs. Southern Illinois/Saint Mary's, Calif.

Seminals
Friday, March 18
Illinois/Fairfield Dickinson vs. Nevada vs. Boston College/Pennsylvania vs. Wisconsin-Milwaukee vs. Southeastern Louisiana vs. Southern Illinois/Saint Mary's, Calif. vs. Arizona/Utah State-LSU/Alabama-Birmingham

Championship
Saturday, March 26
AUSTIN REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 17
Kentucky 72, Eastern Kentucky 64
Cincinnati (24-7) vs. Iowa (21-11)
Oklahoma vs. Niagara 66
Utah (27-5) vs. Texas-E Paso (27-7)

Friday, March 18
Syracuse (27-6) vs. Vermont (24-6)
Michigan State (22-6) vs. Old Dominion (26-5)
Duke (25-5) vs. Delaware State (19-13)
Stanford (19-12) vs. Mississippi State (22-10)

Second Round
Saturday, March 19
Kentucky vs. Cincinnati/Iowa
Oklahoma vs. Utah/Texas E Paso
Syracuse/Vermont vs. Michigan State/Old Dominion
Duke/Delaware State vs. Stanford/Mississippi State

Seminals
Friday, March 25
Duke/Delaware State vs. Stanford/Mississippi State vs. Syracuse/Vermont vs. Michigan State/Old Dominion winner
Kentucky/Cincinnati/Iowa vs. Oklahoma-UTah/Texas E Paso

Championship
ALBUQUERQUE REGIONAL
First Round
Thursday, March 17
Pacific 79, Pittsburgh 71
Wake Forest (26-5) vs. Chattanooga (26-10)

Friday, March 18
West Virginia (21-10) vs. Creighton (23-10)
Washington (27-5) vs. Montana (18-12)
Gonzaga (25-4) vs. Winthrop (27-5)
Texas Tech (20-10) vs. UCLA (18-10)

Friday, March 18
Louisville (25-4) vs. Louisiana-Lafayette (20-10)
Georgia Tech (19-11) vs. George Washington (22-7)

Second Round
Saturday, March 19
Wake Forest/Chattanooga vs. West Virginia/Creighton
Georgia Tech/Montana vs. Pacific/Gonzaga/Winthrop vs. Texas Tech/UCLA

Seminals
Thursday, March 24
Washington/Montana vs. Louisville/Louisiana-Lafayette vs. Georgia Tech/West Virginia vs. Texas Tech/UCLA vs. Gonzaga/Winthrop vs. Texas Tech/UCLA

Championship
FINAL FOUR
Saturday, April 2
Chicago Regional champion vs. Albuquerque Regional champion vs. Austin Regional champion
Sunday, April 3
Championship

The Tide is out

Wis.-Milwaukee surprises 'Bama; Kentucky slips past E. Kentucky

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Josh Tucker and Ed McCants scored 21 points apiece as Wisconsin-Milwaukee got its first-ever NCAA tournament victory, an 83-73 upset of fifth-seeded Alabama on Thursday.

Wisconsin-Milwaukee (25-5) won in its second NCAA tournament outing the Horizon League champion fell 70-69 to Notre Dame two years ago, also as a 12th seed. This is the 16th time in 17 years that as 12th-seeded team has beaten a No. 5 seed.

Kennedy Winston had 20 points and Ronald Steele 16 for the Crimson Tide (24-8), who had hoped to have another run like a year ago when they made it to the round of eight. Milwaukee, which has won 10 straight and 18 of 19, will play either Boston College (24-8) or Pennsylvania (20-8) on Saturday.

The Panthers made 10 three-pointers while building a 45-32 halftime lead, only to have Alabama trail it to five with 13 minutes to play. Milwaukee reeled off six straight points to stem that rally and led 76-63 on a three-pointer by McCants with 2:22 left.

Alabama's Jean Felix hit consecutive three-pointers and Ala-

NCAA roundup

bama was within 79-73 with 1:03 left. But Boo Davis made two free throws and McCants got free for a breakaway dunk as the Panthers closed it out.

Austin Regional

No. 7 Kentucky 72, Eastern Kentucky 64: At Indianapolis, Kelenna Azubuike and Chuck Hayes each scored 16 points and second-seeded Kentucky (26-5) dominated the middle in holding off the scrappy but outmanned Colonels (22-9).

Kentucky ran its NCAA tournament-record victory total to 94 and improved to 37-9 in tournament openers. The Wildcats face Cincinnati or Iowa on Saturday.

The Colonels, whose coach, Travis Ford, was a star guard for the Kentucky team that advanced to the Final Four in 1993, made a final challenge when Witt hit consecutive three-pointers to close the gap to 67-62 with 2:13 to go.

No. 17 Oklahoma 84, Drew Lavender 64: At Tulsa, Arkansas, Steve



Kentucky's Kelenna Azubuike, right, is fouled by Eastern Kentucky's Darnell Diala in the first half of their first-round NCAA tournament game.

Albuquerque Regional

No. 22 Pacific 79, Pittsburgh 71: At Boise, Idaho, Christian Markers scored 17 points, including a late three-pointer that helped clinch victory for Pacific (27-5). Mike Webb added 15 points, going 4-for-4 from beyond the arc to help the Tigers to a 45-30 halftime lead. Pitt rallied in the second half, sparked by Carl Krauser, who got 25 of his 37 points after intermission.

Knight mellowing? Well, maybe not

BY BETH HARRIS

The Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Confronted with the notion that he's mellowed in recent years, Bob Knight stopped and, as always, considered the source.

This time, it wasn't a pesky reporter, but his son, Pat, an assistant to his father at Texas Tech who suggested as much Wednesday.

"Pat said that," Knight asked. "Well, you know, that's nice. That's the first time I've heard him say that."

The notoriously combustible coach fell silent for several seconds.

"I probably always been a lot more mellow than some of you people have thought," he said, staring down from a platform that put Knight high above the assembled media.

And then came the zinger: "I've always been fascinated with the use of descriptive phraseology about people whom the phrasers knows absolutely nothing," he said, creating a word that doesn't exist.

Mostly though, the 64-year-old Knight came across as more mellow than feisty on the eve of his 27th NCAA tournament.

The Hall of Fame coach hasn't stuck around long enough recently to create a fuss. He has just three victories in his past eight



Texas Tech coach Bob Knight fields a question during a news conference on Wednesday.

tournaments, having failed to reach the second weekend since 1994. Which likely doesn't sit well with a coach whose players describe him as ultra competitive.

"They mistake his ambition to win for he yells too much, but it's passion. People don't understand that," said guard Ronald Ross, Tech's leading scorer. "If you're around him every day, you'll just know that he's so passionate for

coaching. He really cares about his players."

Asked if mellow is a word he would associate with Knight, Ross smiled and said, "Not when it comes to basketball. When he's just hanging out, he's a pretty mellow guy, but then again, coach ain't the most mellow person in the world."

Knight, who needs 28 victories to surpass Dean Smith's Division I record of 879, leads sixth-seeded Texas Tech against 11th-seeded UCLA in the first round of the Albuquerque Region on Thursday night.

The Red Raiders (20-10) are making their third NCAA appearance in Knight's four years. UCLA (18-10) has its lowest seed in a tournament it has won a record 11 times.

Gonzaga (25-4), the third seed in the region, meets 14th-seeded Winthrop (27-5) in the night's earlier game. The teams bring the longest winning streaks into the tournament. Winthrop has won 18 straight; Gonzaga 12.

The day games feature teams from the Austin Regional. No. 3 seed Oklahoma (24-7), the Big 12 regular-season champion, plays 14th-seeded Niagara (20-9), making its first NCAA tournament appearance in 35 years.

In the second game, sixth-seeded Utah (27-5) takes on 11th-seeded UTEP (27-7) at Arizona's McKale Center.

The Texas Tech-UCLA matchup pairs a coach (Knight) and a team (UCLA) looking to revive their reputations in the NCAA tournament.

Knight has won three national titles, but none since 1987 at Indiana, which fired him in 2000. It's been 10 years since the Bruins won the NCAA championship, and three years since they last played in the tournament.

While others typically hold UCLA in awe, Knight clearly doesn't.

"They've had great teams, that's obvious, but so have other schools," he said. "There's a really good history and tradition there in basketball, but it's the same kind of tradition that exists someplace else."

The Bruins start three freshmen — the only tournament team to do so — who are used to playing in McKale Center. But the team has lost its past seven games in the arena, including a 76-73 defeat against Arizona on Jan. 15.

Knight got his dander up slightly when asked about rumors mentioning him as a candidate for the Tennessee NCAA championship. "I've gotten a little bit tired of that over my time in coaching," he said.

Pushed for a yes or no answer, Knight snapped. "If you can't get an answer from that, you ought to go back to school."

Class dismissed.

Bryant gives St. Joseph's a lift in NIT

The Associated Press

John Bryant wanted the chance to finish his career on the basketball court. He's getting that opportunity in the NIT.

Bryant returned to Saint Joseph's lineup Wednesday night and provided a lift in a 53-44 victory over Hofstra. He was in the starting lineup three weeks after his arm was broken on a hard foul ordered by Temple coach John Chaney.

Bryant received a standing ovation from the home crowd when he was introduced as the starting power forward.

"It's nice that the fans acknowledged him," coach Phil Martelli said. "It just feels great to come back," Bryant said. "Just like anybody with an injury, the first game back is special."

Bryant was scoreless but had three assists and grabbed five rebounds in 23 minutes.

The difference in the game was the Hawks' experience down the stretch against the Pride. Pat Carroll scored 16 points, Dwayne Jones added 12 points and 15 rebounds, and Lee had 14 points for the Hawks (20-11).

Cal St. Fullerton 85, Oregon St. 83 (OT): Ralph Holmes hit a jump shot just before the buzzer sounded to win it. Holmes and Bobby Brown each had 27 points to lead the host Titans (20-10), who are making their third NIT appearance.

W. Kentucky 88, Kent St. 80 (OT): Antonio Hayes scored 29 points and had three steals for Western Kentucky (22-8). Anthony Winchester scored 20 points and Courtney Lee added 17 for the host Hilltoppers, who generated 33 points off Kent State's season-high 28 turnovers.

Buffalo 81, Drexel 76 (OT): Mark Bortz had 19 points and the Battle added 19 to lift Buffalo (23-9), which lost on a last-second shot to Ohio in the Mid-American Conference championship game. It featured a head clash between Bortz and Courtney Lee in overtime with a spinning layup with 1.7 seconds left.

San Francisco 69, Denver 67: At San Francisco, Tyrone Riley made a layup with 1.3 seconds left and the Dons won their first postseason game in 26 years. John Cox scored 15 of his 27 points in the final 11:11, rallying San Francisco (17-13).

James signs Colts' 1-year offer

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts' career rushing leader is staying put — for now.

Former two-time NFL rushing champion Edgerrin James signed a one-year franchise offer Wednesday that will pay him a little more than \$8 million this year.

But that won't slow James' efforts to get a long-term deal or seek a trade.

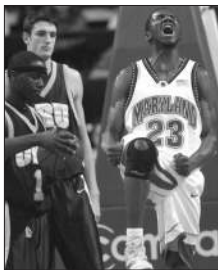
"We think by making the move, it will help facilitate either a long-term deal or enhance the chances of working out a trade," said Drew Rosenhaus, James' agent.

The move comes one week after team president Bill Polian told Rosenhaus that the Colts could not afford to sign James to a long-term contract. Rosenhaus has been trying to work out a trade ever since.

Pace, Rams agree to seven-year deal

ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Rams and six-time Pro Bowl offensive tackle Orlando Pace beat a deadline Wednesday, agreeing on a seven-year, \$52.9 million deal.

The Rams had faced a deadline to re-sign Pace, who visited the Houston Tex-



Maryland's Mike Jones (23) reacts after scoring a basket as Oral Roberts' Ken Tutt (1) and Matt Gastel look on.

Texas A&M 82, Clemson 74: Freshman center Joseph Jones scored a season-high 25 points to lift host Texas A&M (20-9) to its first postseason win in 23 years.

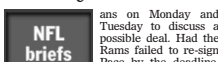
Maryland 85, Oral Roberts 72: Travis Garrison had 18 points and 11 rebounds, and host Maryland ended a four-game losing streak. Mike Jones scored 18 and Will Bowers added a career-high 14 for the Ter-rapins (17-12), who had gone nearly a month since their last victory, at Virginia on Feb. 19.

Vanderbilt 67, Indiana 60: Corey Smith had 25 points and the visiting Commodores (19-13) held off a late Indiana rally in a game that was played before a record-low crowd of 5,113 at Assembly Hall.

TCU 60, Miami of Ohio 58: Nile Murry hit an 18-foot jump shot with 4 seconds left to lift visiting Texas Christian (20-13). RedHawks senior Chris Maston was called for an offensive foul with the scored tied at 58 and 35.5 seconds remaining, leading to Murry's winner.

Georgetown 64, Boston U. 34: At Washington, Jeff Green and Darrel Owens had 17 points apiece, and coach John Thompson III got his first postseason victory. Green dominated inside against the under-sized Terriers frontcourt, going 7-for-10, including three dunks and two three-point plays.

Also, it was Davidson 77, Virginia Commonwealth 62, Wichita State 85, Houston 69, Southwest Missouri State 105, Rice 82, Memphis 90, Northeastern 65.



ans on Monday and Tuesday to discuss a possible deal. Had the Rams failed to re-sign Pace by the deadline, the sides couldn't have signed a contract until July 15.

Strahan complaint dismissed

NEWARK, N.J. — A Superior Court judge on Thursday dismissed a domestic violence complaint against New York Giants defensive end Michael Strahan just days after he filed for divorce.

The complaint stemmed from an argument about money between Strahan and his wife, Jean, at their house in Montclair on March 10.

Judge Thomas Zampino ruled the argument did not involve physical violence, but not before Jean Strahan testified about other fights.

In often fear-filled testimony, she described past incidents in which she claimed the NFL veteran physically abused her, including several times when he choked or punched her.

Michael Strahan denied the abuse allegations. He filed for divorce Monday.

Magic fire coach Davis

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Johnny Davis was fired Thursday as coach of the Orlando Magic, who have lost six straight games and are on the verge of falling from playoff contention. Assistant Chris Jent was hired as interim coach.

"We work in a bottom-line business," general manager John Weisbecker said in a statement. "It is our responsibility to do everything possible to create the best opportunity for success."

Davis was dismissed along with assistant coach Ron Ekker hours after Wednesday night's 110-102

road loss to the Los Angeles Clippers, dropping the Magic to 31-33 and leaving them tied with Philadelphia for the final Eastern Conference playoff spot. The team, in the middle of a West Coast road swing, plays Friday at Seattle.

Davis told the Orlando Sentinel he was "surprised and disappointed" by the firing with just 18 games left in the season and the club still trying to make the playoffs.

"It caught me completely off guard," Davis told the newspaper.

Jent, who spent two seasons in the NBA and was a member of the 1994 champion Houston Rockets, became a Magic assistant this season and is a head coach for the first time. He was promoted over assistant Paul Westhead, who coached the Los Angeles



Johnny Davis

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Paul Pierce and Antoine Walker scored 24 points, and the Boston Celtics nearly blew a 16-point fourth-quarter lead before pulling out a 110-109 win over the Toronto Raptors on Wednesday night.

The win was the fifth straight for the Atlantic Division-leading Celtics and their ninth in 10 games since acquiring Walker from Atlanta on Feb. 24.

Tony Allen finished with 16 points for Boston, including a pair of important baskets in the final 1:46. Ricky Davis had 14.

Jalen Rose led the Raptors with a season-high 35 points and Chris Bosh had 20 before leaving with a bruised lower back early in the final quarter.

Rose scored seven straight points, giving the Raptors a 107-106 lead on a driving shot over Pierce with 2:03 to play. Allen broke free inside for a jam, but Toronto regained the lead on Rafer Alston's jumper with 1:30 to play.

Allen's drive made it 110-109 14 seconds later.

Spurs 89, Timberwolves 73: At San Antonio, Tim Duncan scored 25 points and Robert Horry added 18, his highest total in his two seasons with the Spurs.

The Spurs, playing a fourth straight home game without swingman Manu Ginobili, made 12 of their first 15 shots to quickly open a double-digit lead they maintained for most of the game.

San Antonio shot 70 percent in the first quarter and 35 percent after that, but the Timberwolves managed only 39 percent for the game. The Spurs made half of their 14 three-pointers and committed only



NBA briefs

les Lakers to the 1980 title and later coached the Denver Nuggets.

Davis' overall record with the Magic was 51-84. He also coached Philadelphia in 1996-97, going 22-60 there.

Iverson hopes to play with injury

PHILADELPHIA — Allen Iverson remained hopeful Wednesday a chipped bone in his left thumb won't cost him any games.

"Nine times out of 10, I'm playing Friday," Iverson said after the 76ers practiced without the All-Star Game MVP.

Iverson, the NBA's leading scorer, was hurt in Philadelphia's win over the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night. Iverson said Wednesday he still wasn't sure when the injury happened, though he thought it might have been on a play in which he was fouled by Kobe Bryant.

Coach Jim O'Brien said Iverson was a game-time decision for the Sixers on Friday night at Cleveland. Iverson, who scored 36 points against the Lakers, was listed as day-to-day.

"To a certain extent, it is tolerance of pain, but it's also going to be how the X-ray looks and whether there would be a chance of further injury," O'Brien said.

The injury comes at an inopportune time for the Sixers (31-33), who trail Boston by four games in the Atlantic Division.

Philadelphia is a half-game behind Orlando for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

If Iverson can't play, Willie Green would start. Chris Webber, who has struggled in 10 games with Philadelphia, could also get the ball more often.

Celtics win fifth straight

eight turnovers, compared to 20 turnovers for Minnesota.

Pacers 103, Jazz 84: At Indianapolis, Stephen Jackson scored 28 points and Indiana hit 37 of 43 free throws. Reggie Miller scored 15 points and Anthony Johnson 12 for the Pacers.

Mehmet Okur scored 16 points and Andre Kirilenko 15 for Utah.

Wizards 122, Hawks 93: Gilbert Arenas had 29 points and Larry Hughes added 23 as visiting Washington had a season-high point total. The Wizards used a 24-2 run in the fourth quarter to win consecutive games for the first time in 13 games.

Nets 100, Bulls 84: At New Rutherford, N.J., Vince Carter scored 30 points as New Jersey completed a season sweep of Chicago. Jason Kidd had 22 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists.

Bucks 96, Cavaliers 88: Michael Redd scored 32 points and Joe Smith tied his season-high with 21 as the Bucks withstood 34 points from LeBron James, extending Cleveland's road losing streak to eight games.

Grizzlies 88, Hornets 82: At New Orleans, James Posey scored 20 points and Earl Watson scored seven of his 16 points late in the fourth quarter.

Rockets 108, Trail Blazers 77: David Wesley and Bob Sara scored 21 points each to lead the Rockets to their sixth straight win. It was the Rockets' first game back home after sweeping a four-game road trip over some of the best teams in the West, including Phoenix and Seattle.

Clippers 110, Magic 102: At Los Angeles, Corey Maggette shrugged off a sore left wrist and scored 31 points, extending Orlando's losing streak to a season-high six games.

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SPORTS



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McGwire won't 'name names'

Lawmakers chastise MLB commissioner as hearing opens

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
AND RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Retired slugger Mark McGwire Thursday told a congressional panel investigating drugs in baseball that he would not "participate in naming names" of players who used steroids.

McGwire did not say in his opening statement to the House Government Reform Committee whether he used steroids.

Two current players, Sammy Sosa and Rafael Palmeiro, said they never used steroids. That duo and McGwire were accused of using performance-enhancing drugs by Jose Canseco in a best-selling book that helped prompt the hearing.

In a tense scene, Canseco sat at the same table as the other players as he told the lawmakers that he could not fully answer their questions because of concerns his testimony could be used against him.

Choking back tears, his voice cracking, McGwire said he knows that steroid use can be dangerous and will do whatever he can to discourage young athletes from using them.

"What I will not do, however, is participate in naming names and implicating my friends and teammates," said McGwire, who ranks sixth in major league history with 583 homers.

Earlier, Commissioner Bud Selig defended Major League Baseball's drug-testing policy against withering attacks from lawmakers who called the penalties too light and progress on steroids too slow.

"Baseball did nothing over the years," said California Rep. Henry Waxman, the ranking Democrat on the House panel holding a hearing on steroids in the sport.

Poll: Most Americans want users out of record books

The Associated Press

By a 2-1 margin, Americans think professional baseball players who have broken Major League Baseball's rules by using performance-enhancing drugs should not be allowed to remain in the record books, a poll found.

The ABC-ESPN poll of 1,019 adults was taken March 11-15 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points, and 4 percentage points for baseball fans.

Some other findings:

■ Two-thirds said that "such athletes who use performance-enhancing drugs" should not be eligible for the Hall of Fame.

■ Almost two-thirds said Major League Baseball is not doing enough to prevent steroid use in baseball.

■ Two-thirds, 65 percent, thought Major League Baseball should be responsible for creating and enforcing rules about steroid use in baseball, while 30 percent said the federal government should be responsible.

■ Eight in 10 said they are concerned that the use of performance-enhancing drugs by well-known athletes encourages young people to use those drugs.

■ Almost three-fourths said Barry Bonds of the San Francisco Giants should have been called to testify before Congress.

Sosa told the panel, "I am clean."

"Everything I have heard about steroids and human growth hor-

SEE MCGWIRE ON PAGE 31



Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig listens to testimony during a hearing on Capitol Hill to examine the use of steroids in baseball in Washington on Thursday. Selig defended baseball's steroids policy, saying it's "as good as any in professional sports" and adding that he agreed to shorter bans "on the theory that behavior modification should be the most important goal of our policy."

**12th-seeded
UW-Milwaukee
makes No. 5-seed
Alabama first
upset victim of
NCAA tournament**

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**Heidelberg boys,
girls head into
high school soccer
season with long
championship
streaks**

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**Bonds likely
to miss
Giants' opener
after second
operation
on right knee**

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Magic fire coach Davis after sixth straight loss

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